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DEC 31 2008

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May the New Year Bring You Health and Happiness and Bring Us All One Step Closer to Peace on Earth

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Borough Debates Scaling Back Services to Reduce Cost of Budget for 2009

Prospects for making up the projected shortfall in the 2009 budget without raising taxes or finding extra sources of revenue looked grim during last Tuesday's Borough Council meeting.

Earlier this month, the Borough's Finance Committee had recommended that Council not increase salaries or taxes in 2009, which Borough Administrator Robert Bruschi calculated would leave a $1.3 million gap. After the identification of possible cuts to the budget that would include staffing reductions, the shortfall was estimated at $510,000. Recent news, however, revealed that the Borough would be losing state revenue because of a hotel tax overpayment in the previous year, according to Mr. Bruschi, who added that the "real issue is not so much expenditures, which we can control" but "revenues." The loss of the hotel tax revenue, he said, adds to the shortfall, which is now $890,000.

Reporting that administration had already met with the bargaining units, Mr. Bruschi mentioned that they were reluctant to renegotiate any existing agreements. He also presented other possible remedies for reducing expenditures that could include cutting additional staff positions in the police, administration, and public works departments, either by attrition or through layoffs.

Suggesting that Council meet with the Township to fully discuss joint agency budgets, Mr. Bruschi proposed the elimination of or reduction of funding for a few commissions. He warned Council that a delicate balance would have to be struck regarding "cutting services that people are accustomed to having," and increasing taxes.

Members of the Human Services Commission (HSC), a joint agency that provides services to youth and seniors, including the Crosstown 62 transportation service, and in the areas of civil rights and welfare, asked Council to allow the commission to continue providing services. In a previous presentation about the 2009 budget, Mr. Bruschi had suggested that outsourcing certain services to the County or State levels could alleviate some of the pressure on the Borough.

HSC Executive Director Cynthia Mendez said that shifting around the centralized service provision to other municipal levels would diminish the quality of those

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Election, Economy Define a Year of Change

With the presidential election and the downturn in the economy at the forefront, 2008 has definitely made itself felt in Princeton, where local merchants are anxiously totaling results of holiday season sales, and the municipal governments are facing cuts in services and spending next year. Here is a look back at the year and some of the events that will continue to affect Princeton.

Princeton Borough

When Borough Council member Wendy Benchley resigned her seat at the end of March, Architect Kevin Wilkes was appointed to fill the remainder of her term until the November elections, during which he won a one-year term on Council against opponent Dudley Sipprelle. David Goldfarb and Barbara Tretstad ran unopposed and were reelected to Council for respective three-year terms.

Borough Council passed a municipal budget of $25,264,214 in July, which included a five-cent tax increase, meaning that residents now pay $1.03 for every $100 of assessed property value. The total is an increase of over a million dollars in spending from the previous year. Discussions have already begun regarding the budget for 2009, and without a

Continued on Page 3

Township Committee Considers Successful Bond Sale and Salt Use

At a relatively brief meeting on Monday morning, Township Committee members heard reports on a "fun" bond sale, and the use of a disproportionate amount of salt on icy roads during the recent bad weather.

The $8 million bond sale involved seven bidders, according to Chief Financial Officer Kathy Monzo, and the winning 4.018 percent interest rate offered by PNC Capital Markets earned the distinction of being the lowest in the state during the last 30 days. Ms. Monzo noted that the sale reaffirmed the Township's triple-A bond rating, a fact that was duly noted in a Moody's & Standard & Poor's rating report.

Township Administrator Jim Pascalo

Continued on Page 11

A GRAND REOPENING: The Arts Council of Princeton opened the doors of its newly renovated and expanded Paul Robeson Center for the Arts on June 5. Pictured: Architect and Princeton resident Michael Graves, who donated the design for the building, sealing the moment with a handshake from Paul Robeson, Jr., prior to cutting the ribbon at opening day ceremonies. Also on hand (from left): Marilyn Robeson, Arts Council Executive Director Jeff Nathanson, Founding Director Anne Reeves, Borough Mayor Mildred Trotman, and Township Mayor Phyllis Marchand. The WPA-era building was expanded in size from approximately 9,000 square feet to almost 17,000. It quickly embarked on its mission to feature local and national artists in its gallery and theater spaces.

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DETAILS ON PAGE 6.

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Details on page 3.

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Topics In Brief
A Community Bulletin

Princeton Township offices will be closed on December 31 and January 1. The **Township Commitee's** annual **Reorganization Meeting** will be held on Sunday, January 4, at noon, in Township Hall.

Princeton Borough offices will be closed on December 31, and January 1.

The Princeton Public Library will close at 1 p.m. on December 31, and remain closed on January 1.

Princeton Regional School classes resume Monday, January 5.

Christmas tree collection in Princeton Township is scheduled for the following days in each of the following four collection sections of the Township: section 1, bounded by Route 206 to the west and the Borough line and Route 27 to the south: January 5, 12, 20, and 26; section 2, bounded by Alexander Street to the west and the Borough line and Route 27 to the north: January 6, 13, 20, and 27; section 3, bounded by Rosedale Road to the north and the Borough line and Alexander Street to the east: January 7, 14, 21, and 28; and section 4, bounded by Rosedale Road to the south and the Borough line and Route 206 to the east: January 8, 15, 22, and 29. Residents are asked to place Christmas trees at the edge of the pavement before 7 a.m. on the day of collection. All tinsel and decorations must be removed. Trees in bags will not be picked up. Residents who miss the scheduled pick-up times may take their trees to the Lawrence Township ecological facility at 3701 Princeton Pike, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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Town Topics
Princeton's Community Newspaper

DRAFTSMAN: Architect Noah Yaffe points to the model of the new Princeton University-proposed Arts and Transit Neighborhood that will reshape the southern part of campus as part of the University's Campus Master Plan. The designs were made public at the Paul Robeson Center for the Arts in September.

(Photo by Ursula M. Perreal)

Year of Change

continued from page one

tax increase, a shortfall of $890,000 is projected after possible budget cuts.

Princeton Township

After 13 years as Mayor and 22 years on the Township Committee, Phyllis Marchand announced her retirement effective November 30. Liz Lempert was elected by the Committee to fill Ms. Marchand's seat. Deputy Mayor Bernie Miller assumed mayoral responsibilities until the Committee's January 4 Reorganization Meeting, when the Committee will elect a new mayor. Retiring committeewoman Vicky Bergman's seat will be filled in the new year by Sue Nemeth, who was elected by Township residents in November.

Township taxpayers faced the smallest tax increase in four years in 2008: five cents per $100 of the assessed value of their homes. The average Township tax bill was cited as $15,394, which was divided among the Princeton Regional School system ($7,330), Mercer County ($4,269), and the Township ($3,795). The participation of a citizens' advisory committee was welcomed in the budget preparation process, and resulted in a well-received brochure sent to Township taxpayers and municipal departments, explaining how the budget worked.

Property revaluations in both the Borough and the Township will be of signal interest in the coming year.

Princeton Regional Schools

The Princeton Regional Board of Education said good-bye to board president Michael Mostoller and member Jeffrey Spears in the spring, electing Alan Hegedus as new president and welcoming two new members, Township resident Dan Haughton and Borough resident Tim Quinn, in the fall.

In February, artist-in-residence Terrance Simien offered zydeco music programming for district students in grades K through 12, culminating in community concert to benefit students displaced and schools destroyed by Hurricane Katrina.

A $100,000 pledge from the Institute for Advanced Study to the Princeton Education Foundation (PEF) promised to support innovations in PRS's science curriculum, and enabled the creation of a new biology wing in the high school, which was celebrated with a formal ribbon-cutting ceremony in April. PEF was also responsible for the fund-raising behind a new state-of-the art physical fitness center at the high school that opened at the beginning of the year.

Data reflecting the district's concerted effort to close the achievement gap among minority students were brought into focus at November's Minority Education Meeting.

For the 11th consecutive year, the district received an unqualified commendation of excellence after an audit of the district's financial affairs.

The end of the year found the district anticipating state legislation that would impact the budget preparation process and the election of board members.

The still-unresolved future of the Valley Road Building is certain to be an item on PRS, Township Committee, and Historic Preservation Commission agendas in

Continued on Next Page

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PEACEFUL PROTEST: In August demonstrators gathered in Hinds Plaza to rally for clean energy, one of 130 such gatherings nationwide. The event was organized by MoveOn.org.

(Photo by Isabelle Clement)

Year of Change

Continued from Preceding Page

2009.

Princeton Public Library

A Children's Book Festival, the most successful Friends Annual Book Sale to date, and the Friends Annual Benefit featuring journalist Evan Thomas, were among the library's 2008 high points. The Nigerian novelist Chinua Achebe's book, Things Fall Apart, was this year's "Princeton Reads" selection, culminating in a standing-room-only appearance by Mr. Achebe at the Nassau Presbyterian Church in March.

Responding to evidence that library use flagged when free parking was no longer available, the Borough and the Township agreed to revive parking subsidies that gave library patrons two hours of free parking in the Borough parking garage. Terra Momo took over the library cafe from Chez Alice, and the library store diversified its merchandise in an effort to boost sales. At year's end the library announced a hiring freeze and was looking at a flat budget in the coming year.

Jitney

The Borough's community jitney, or Free B shuttle, began running in April and currently traverses a route from the downtown to the Dinky station and back again on weekdays between 5:30 a.m. and 9 a.m. and again from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. The program is free of charge and is in an experimental three-year phase during which a grant from New Jersey Transit and the provision of a vehicle support its operation. Princeton University has also agreed to contribute funding to the service.

Affordable Housing

December 31 is the state deadline to file a ten-year affordable housing plan with the New Jersey Council on Affordable Housing (COAH) that meets the obligation assigned to each municipality by COAH. Though the state-imposed mandate does not provide funds to assist in building affordable homes, housing consultant Shirley Bishop warned that if municipalities do not file a plan with COAH, they become open to a builder's remedy lawsuit, which would cost taxpayers. The Regional Planning Board and both Borough Council and Township Committee approved of the plans for the municipalities in December.

Continued on Next Page

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CELEBRATING FITNESS: Attending the January ribbon-cutting ceremony for a new state-of-the art physical fitness center at Princeton High School were (from left): Honorary Campaign Chair and Olympic Gold Medal Winner Lesley Bush (PHS '65), Princeton Regional Schools Board President Michael Mostoller, and Bob James, President of the Friends ot Princeton Athletics. The Princeton Education Foundation (PEF), an organization that encourages private philanthropy to enhance public education for students at all levels in Princeton, spearheaded tund-raising efforts for the center. (Photo by Ellen Gilbert)

Year of Change

Continued from Preceding Page

Downtown Development

Though Borough Council and developer NHKT agreed to a mediator in December, Phase Ii of the downtown development had been given the go-ahead in June when Council approved a set of estoppel agreements. Delays in approving the construction stem from disputes regarding Phase i of the project, specifically the Spring Street Parking garage.

The Tulane Street parking lot was closed in July so construction could begin on the five-story mixed-use structure, referred to as Building C, that will occupy that site. The new complex is to house 56 apartments, a small grocery store, and three live/work retail spaces.

Rezoning

In June, Borough Council approved of an ordinance allowing the creation of a mixed-use (MX) zone on the 32 acres of land comprising the Merwick, Stanworth, YMCA, and YWCA properties. The rezoning permits a combination of single and two-family dwellings, a parking garage, and non-residential non-profit organizations to coexist on the site, and imposes certain height, density, and affordability restrictions on future development within the space.

The Borough's Zoning Board heard a three-part case beginning in April and ending in August regarding a proposal by architect J. Robert Hillier, who is also a Town Topics shareholder, to rezone three properties along Greenview Avenue in order to build a condominium complex of 14 units for persons aged 55 and above. The project was denied in a 4-3 vote, and reactions by neighbors were mixed. One of the major factors cited by the board members who voted against the proposal was an ordinance passed in 2006 to specifically limit the size of residential buildings.

Continued on Next Page

POOL PROBE: Princeton residents enjoyed an extra day at the Community Park Pool early in September and heard--and reacted to-- Recreation Oepartment Executive Oirector Jack Roberts's expianation ot the need tor renovations at the 40-year old compiex, and possibie solutions. Public sentiment came down clearly on the side ot keeping things as much the same as possibie. (Photo by Ellen Gilbert)

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NICE TRY: The Republican Women of Mercer County held a late-August voter registration drive in Hinds Plaza. Democrats were the winners nationally and in Princeton Borough and Township. Senator and President Elect Barack Obama took 66.94 percent of votes in Mercer County, while Senator John McCain received 31.69 percent of votes.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT: Third grade students in the Summer Exploration program managed a lemonade stand to support then-Senator Barack Obama's Presidential campaign with "change for change." *(Photo by Dilshanie Perra)*

Year of Change

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University Expansion

The designs for the University's proposed Arts and Transit Neighborhood were unveiled in September for public consideration. The reshaping of the southern part of the campus provides for adding new buildings adjacent to McCarter and Berlind Theaters, including the Stephen Holl-designed new Lewis Center for the Arts, a new media center, and a contemporary art-focused satellite of the University Art Museum. While a plaza, cafe, and other amenities were also proposed, the largest point of contention was the plan to shift the Dinky station 460 feet further from town in order to have space for a transit hub.

The Arts and Transit Neighborhood is part of the 10-year Campus Master Plan, which has come under review by the Regional Planning Board. The proposed construction of a garage on the east side of campus has received input from the Eastern Campus Neighbors group, and traffic patterns in the town as a result of University expansion are being analyzed, though no final decisions have been made.

New at the University

Princeton University saw a flurry of activity over the past year with the resolution of the Robertson case, and new construction and programs, alongside a wide array of lectures, including talks by Supreme Court Justices Antonin Scalia and Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Newark's Mayor Cory Booker, a preview reading from her latest novel by Toni Morrison, and a conversation between Professor Cornel West and Actress Phylicia Rashad.

The sculptural cascade of brick and stainless steel that is the Frank Gehry-designed Peter B. Lewis Library is the home to all of the University's science library collections, which have been brought together for the first time. The opening coincided

Continued on Page 8

PLEDGING ALLEGIANCE: Community Park second graders lined the plaza ot the Township Municipal Building tor the Spirit ot Princeton's Flag Day ceremony in June. *(Photo by E.J. Greenblat)*

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MEETING OF MiNDS: Actress Phylicia Rashad and Princeton University Professor Cornel West discussed the experiences of chlidhood, the deep historical past, the current economic crisis, embodying characters onstage, and contemporary political hypocrisy during their conversation in Richardson Auditorium in October. *(Photo by Brian Wilson)*

STOCKED MARKET: Celebrating local organic, sustainable agriculture from the Princeton area, the first weekly Farmers' Market of the season opened in September at the Firestone Library/ Chapel Piaza on the Princeton University Campus. *(Photo by Isabelle Clement)*

ALL RiDE FREE: The community jitney, or Free B shuttle, began its free service in April. Pictured here are (from ieft), Borough Council member Barbara Trelstad, tormer Borough Councli member Wendy Benchley, Council President Margaret Karcher, Mayor Mildred Trotman, Council member Roger Martindeil, Princeton Universlty Vice Presldent and Secretary Robert Ourkee, Universlty Director of Parking and Transportation Klm Jackson, Borough Administrator Robert Bruschi, and Universlty Director of Community and Regional Affairs Kristin Appelget.

(Photo by Matthew Hersh)

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Year of Change

Continued from Page 6

with the beginning of the school year in September. The Art Museum has undergone summertime renovations and now features an exhibition, among others, of Mr. Gehry's line drawings, through which his design process can be observed.

In May, the University's Alcohol Coalition Committee issued a strategic plan to address high-risk drinking on campus, which has been a source of concern. Borough police recently reported to Council that they have seen a sharp rise in underage drinking over the past years.

The upcoming autumn will see the first trial of the University's "bridge year" program, during which 20 incoming freshman will spend a fully funded year abroad engaged in service projects, language training and cultural immersion.

Hospital

The University Medical Center of Princeton broke ground in October for its new location in Plainsboro. The project is expected to be complete in 2011, and will feature a 160-acre campus comprised of the hospital, a health education center, fitness and wellness center, senior residential community, skilled nursing facility, public park, and medical office building. The hospital itself will contain 238 private rooms, 100 percent energy-efficient fresh air circulation in specific areas to reduce infection, patient safety features, operating theaters that can accommodate robotics and will be voice-controlled, and will use electronic medical records.

Parks and Recreation

The Joint Recreation Department was told to "keep it simple" by Township and Borough residents in the several public meetings held to discuss potential renovations to the community's aging pool complex, which has outlived its 25-year life expectancy by more than 15 years. While independent money, accrued through user fees, was used to pay consultants who developed several scenarios for the future pool site, financial

Continued on Next Page

PRINCETON PROCESSiONAL: Foliowing the annual Opening Exercises in September, which welcome freshman into the University and included an address by President Shirley Tilghman, the Class of 2012 marched out of the PU Chapel to officially enter the University through its main gate. *(Photo by Dilshanie Perera)*

FLYING SHADOWS: Young skateboarders test the ramps and jumps at the new skate park that opened at Hilltop Park in November. *(Photo by Dilshanie Perera)*

GEHRY-OESIGNED: The opening of the new Peter B. Lewis Library housing Princeton University's science collections coincided with the beginning ot the schooi year in September. Oesigned by architect Frank Gehry with the intent tc provide an environment to enhance contemplation and creativity, the structure teatures many of his signature design elements, including brushed stainless steel panels. *(Photo by Dilshanie Perera)*

Year of Change

Continued from Preceding Page

responsibility for new construction has not yet been determined.

As for land-based activity, Potts Park underwent some renovations and formally reopened in July, while the new skate park that opened in November was built at Hilltop Park. Both recreation initiatives were funded in part by a County grant called "Mercer at Play," encouraging collaboration between the Recreation Department, Borough, Township, University, non-profit Parks Alliance, and community.

Green Initiatives

Sustainability has been a buzzword around town for a while, but a few particularly green initiatives stood out during the past year. In January, in order to cut down on waste from plastic bags, the Public Library began selling its reusable red bags, which have become a fixture in Princeton. Additionally, the donation of "Kill-A-Watt" meters to the library from the Princeton Environmental Commission revealed how much energy was being used by electronic appliances and that turning computers to standby mode instead of logging off is saving the library about $6,000 per year. Residents may borrow the meters from the library.

Throughout the summer, Friends of Princeton Open Spaces Naturalist Steve Hiltner, who is also a member of the Environmental Commission, led weekly plant inventory walks to categorize the kinds of flora found in local parks, woods, and trails. The listing will be published in the final version of the Princeton Environmental Resource Inventory.

November's Green Home and Garden Tour sponsored and curated by the Environmental Commission showcased nine Princeton institutions or residences with green elements including geothermal heating, a rain garden, and sustainable renovations.

—Ellen Gilbert
—Dilshanie Perera

MEDICAL VISIONS: A concept rendering by architectural firms HOK and RMJM (formerly RMJM Hillier) provides a preview of the new University Medical Center of Princeton at Plainsboro. Groundbreaking for the $441.7 million project occurred in October. The 636,000 square foot hospital will be 2.5 miles away from downtown Princeton.

LOVE AT FIRST LIGHT: A couple enjoys the fireworks and a snuggle from a perfect vantage point during the annual Independence Day firework celebration sponsored by the Spirit of Princeton. *(Photo by Dilshanie Perera)*

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APPLE DAY 2008: At Apple Day, held every September at Terhune Orchards, families rode ponies and farm wagons, explored the corn stalk maze, made their own scarecrows, and delighted in "Everything Apple." *(Photo by George Vogel)*

POMP AND CIRCUMSTANCE: Members of the Princeton High School Class of 2008 salute the flag to kick off graduation proceedings at the school year's end in June. *(Photo by E.J. Greenblatt)*

COMMUNIVERSITY: Art makings aplenty occurred at Communiversity 2008 in April. The Arts Council activities booth featured games inspired by artists like Andy Warhol and Jasper Johns. Close to 200 artists, crafters, merchants, and local organizations joined in the festivities. *(Photo by George Vogel)*

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ALONG THE NILE: Preparing for the Eden Family of Services upcoming gala, "Dreams of Amon-Ra," are (from left): Eden Dreams Co-chair, Janet Quartarone, Dream Search actor Hannah Zaic, and Eden Dreams Co-chair, Rob Robinson.

Township Committee

continued from page one

pointed out that the financial community's interest in participating in the bond sale was the result of Township Committee efforts, in recent years, "to make proper financial decisions which set aside an adequate surplus" of available money. He also lauded the "very minimal" amount of money represented by the $48,900 (out of a total of just under $34 million) in budget transfers approved by the Committee at Monday's meeting. Described as "housekeeping," the money moved from the Township Committee's budget to other Township departments reflected expenses for items like unanticipated road repairs, personnel changes, college tuition reimbursement, and continuing education fees.

"Unanticipated" was also the byword of Public Works Superintendent Dan Hansen's report on the "completely different" kind of storm that recently hit the area. He described the scenario, which included a combination of snow, rain, and ice as a "no-win situation" in which 450 to 500 tons of salt, at a cost of $60 a ton, were used. Although there are no immediate storms in the forecast, he said that the department would be purchasing another 500 tons of salt to be ready for whatever the new year may bring.

In response to Committeewomen Liz Lempert's question about whether salt and water are used to treat area roads, Mr. Hansen discussed the department's salt-only policy. While some neighboring communities apply salt and water to roads in a pre-storm, "anti-icing" effort, Mr. Hansen described that policy as labor-intensive, not necessarily effective, and highly wasteful when a predicted snow storm turns out to be just rain. Nor does he believe in additives, which only intensify salt's already-corrosive effects. "We do the best we can," said Mr. Hansen, describing the numerous phone calls his office received from residents complaining about treacherous local roads during the recent storm. After 38 years of experience and going regularly to conferences to update the department's operations, he still admits that "Mother Nature always wins."

While there were no formal reports by Committee members at the meeting, Township Attorney Ed Schmierer announced the arrival his first grandchild, "a doll" named Genovieve Anne.

—Ellen Gilbert

"Eden Dreams" Fund-Raiser Conjures Ancient Egypt

Eden Family of Services will be holding its 21st annual "Eden Dreams" white-tie dinner gala on Saturday, January 17, at at the Hyatt Regency in Princeton. This year's theme is "Dreams of Amon-Ra," harkening back to ancient Egypt.

Highlights of the evening will include a silent auction, and the annual "Dream Search" puzzle. Part riddle, quest and challenge, the Dream Search asks guests to thread their way through an intellectual labyrinth of clues to try and divine the correct answer (or answers) to a theme-related puzzle. The winner is rewarded with honors and two first-class round trip tickets on Continental Airlines. Interactive theater actors will be on hand to help guests solve the puzzle.

Individual seats for Dreams of Amon-Ra are $300. All proceeds benefit the Eden Family of Services, serving children and adults with autism. For Eden Dreams reservations or additional information, contact the Eden Institute Foundation at (609) 987-0099 or visit www.edenservices.org.

11 Births Reported At Princeton Hospital

The Princeton HealthCare System has reported 11 births the week of December 26, 2008.

Daughters were born to Ece and Hakan Kalay, West Windsor, December 23; Kelly Babbitt and Alex Brown, Rocky Hill, December 24; Susanna Lopez and Reven Ramirez, Princeton, December 23; Megan and Patrick Hitpas, Princeton, December 23; Satarupa Dasgupta and Dr. Shuvayu Sankar Sen, Princeton, December 22; and Krupali Desai and Sanjay Subramanian, Princeton Junction, December 22.

Sons were born to Sonia and Joseph Gessner, Princeton, December 23; Alyssa R. and Jacob A. Kiesler, Cranbury, December 20; Sonia and Joseph Gessner, Princeton, December 23; Norah Anne Wasden, Pennington, December 19; and Anastasiya and Sergey Lipnevich, Princeton Junction, December 18.

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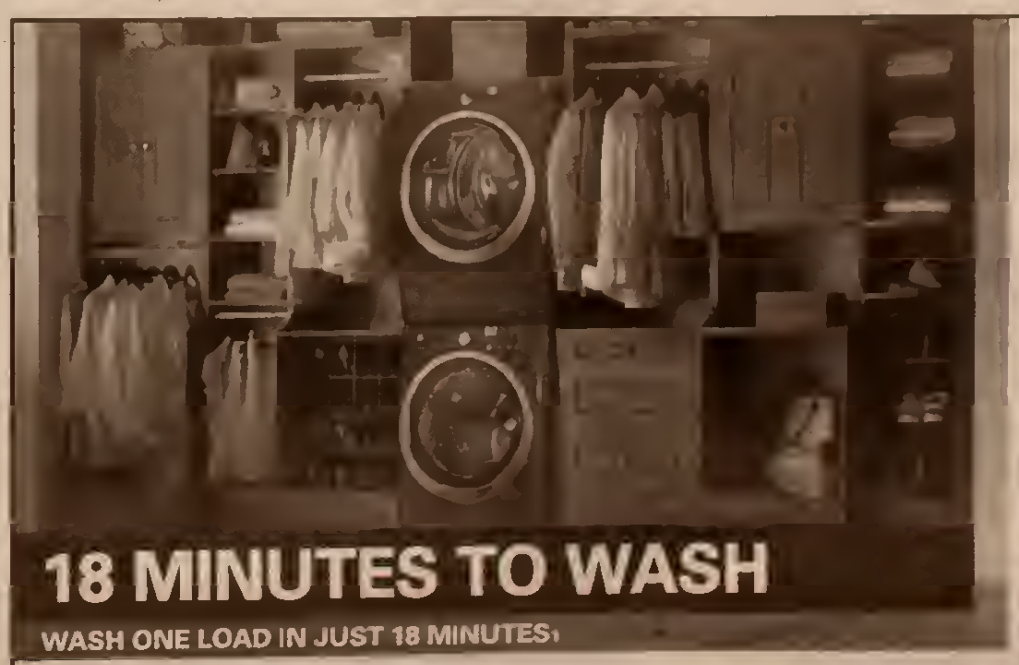

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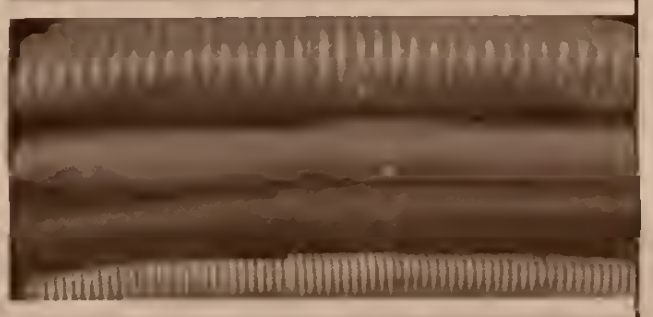

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Borough Budget

continued from page one

services and make it more difficult for residents to obtain assistance or to benefit from certain programs.

Princeton High School student Alex Moise spoke of his positive experience at the Human Services-sponsored summer youth employment program, adding that "if it wasn't for Human Services, I'd probably be on the couch playing video games."

Addressing Borough Council, Mr. Bruschi suggested that if service transfers "are concepts you want to explore, it really needs to be done by the political powers that be," adding that "it's not an administrator's job; it's more a policy decision."

Mayor Mildred Trotman said that despite the difficult economic times, and the fact that nothing is "off the table" for scaling back, "I have a problem with just doing away with a department which by its very nature has a history of helping the vulnerable."

"What we're looking at is an agency that is not central to government's function," Mr. Goldfarb said, adding that "other organizations in the community should be looked at as providers." He suggested that "we don't have to do everything here."

Human Services Board Member Claire Jacobus remarked that "the largest question is whether this community really wants to abandon the poorest among us."

Council members Margaret Karcher, Barbara Trelstad, Kevin Wilkes, and Ms. Jacobus and Ms. Mendez will hold a special meeting to discuss the viability of the current Human Services Commission further before any final decisions are made.

Mr. Bruschi noted that once the year-end revenues have been tabulated, the Borough would know the amount of available surplus, making possible a more thorough budgetary discussion in mid-January.

Borough resident Mark Alexandridis recommended that the Borough consider larger budget items, like the "reconciliation of the lost payments with the Township," and reducing the size of the police force. "Sometimes you need to make a few hard decisions instead of diluting everything," he said.

Council approved a new contract that reduces garbage collection to once a week. This change, along with offering a benefit buyout option for employees, will save the Borough $175,000 in the upcoming year, according to Mr. Bruschi.

The conversation about the 2009 budget will continue in January.

—Dilshanie Perera

Nobel Economist to Speak At Chamber of Commerce

Eric Maskin, the Albert O. Hirschman Professor of Social Science at the Institute for Advanced Study and 2007 Nobel Prize Winner in Economics will speak to the Princeton Regional Chamber of Commerce on Thursday, January 8, on "Financial Crises, Why they occur and what to do about them."

While the new administration wrestles with the biggest set of economic problems since 1929, Mr. Maskin suggests that economic theory can contribute to the solutions. He won the Nobel, along with two colleagues, for a theory called "mechanism design."

Mr. Maskin believes that individuals and banks are less to blame for the financial failure than government, which failed to regulate the mortgage loans.

A New Jersey native, Mr. Maskin earned his A.B. and Ph.D. degrees from Harvard, studied at the University of Cambridge, and taught at Harvard and MIT. In 2000 he came to the Institute for Advanced Study. He is the third Nobel Prize winner to live in the Mercer Street house formerly occupied by Albert Einstein.

The Chamber's Monthly Membership Luncheon will begin with registration and networking at 11:30 a.m. followed by the program at noon. Cost to attend is $40 for Chamber members; $50 for non-members. Reservations in advance are required and can be made at www.princetonchamber.org or by calling (609) 924-1776

Local Fare

from Princeton's kitchens

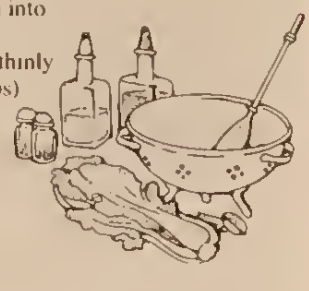
Watercress, Fennel & Romaine Salad with Pernod Dressing

from Ellen Gilbert, Town Topics Staff Writer

This recipe appeared in The New York Times over twenty years ago. It has graced many dinner parties since then. You might like to warn guests that what appear to be slices of breath-destroying onion are actually wonderful, crisp, licorice-flavored slivers of fennel (sometimes referred to as "anise.")

The salad:

6 bunches watercress (about 12 cups of sprigs)
2 large heads romaine lettuce, torn into small pieces (about 8 cups)
3 heads fennel, tops removed and thinly sliced across the bulb (about 6 cups)



The dressing:

1 cup fresh orange juice
1 cup olive oil
1/4 cup fresh lemon juice
4 teaspoons kosher salt
5 tablespoons Pernod
Freshly ground black pepper

1. Wash the greens well, then dry them. Refrigerate in a large plastic bag, undried, if preparing ahead.
2. Whisk together the dressing ingredients. Just before serving, place the greens in one or two large salad bowls. Divide the dressing evenly between the bowls. Toss well to combine.

Yield: 20 servings.

More to come... Watch this space weekly for Princeton's favorite recipes....*Provided by Robin Broomer, Town Topics*

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Noelle C. Clarke, 22, of Princeton, was arrested on December 25, at 11:30 p.m. for DWI after a 9-1-1 call reported an intoxicated driver in the area of Cherry Hill Road. She was later released to a relative.

Thomas Sanders, 20, of Princeton, was issued a summons on December 26, at 12:50 a.m. for a violation of Consumption of Alcohol by Person Under the Legal Age. He was released from the scene.

Princeton Township has reported the following warrant arrest:

Hugo Alfredo Davila, 20, of Princeton, on December 25, at 7:47 a.m. for a Contempt of Court Warrant out of Princeton Borough Municipal Court in the amount of $250. He was later released. .

Rescue

The Princeton First Aid and Rescue Squad responded to 53 calls for service last week.

On Saturday, December 20, the Squad was called to a local pediatrician's office for a 17-month-old boy who began seizing in the examination room and required immediate transport to the hospital. The patient was transported to the pediatric emergency department at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital (RWJUH) in New Brunswick for evaluation and treatment.

Later that evening, the Squad was dispatched to a church for a middle-aged male complaining of heart palpitations. Upon the crew's arrival, he stated that the palpitations were increasing in severity and that he was beginning to have trouble breathing. The crew administered oxygen and rushed him to RWJUH, at his request, for further evaluation.

On Sunday, December 21, the Squad was called on to evaluate a male who had been found lying on the sidewalk bleeding from the head. While the assessment of the patient was hindered due to the language barrier, bystanders reported observing him fall to the sidewalk from the front porch of a nearby residence. Besides being disorlented, he had a laceration approximately 8 to 10 inches in length across his head. The crew applied pressure to the laceration to control the bleeding, secured the patient to a spinal immobilization device, administered oxygen, and rushed him to the regional trauma center at Capital Health System-Fuld Campus for evaluation.

On Christmas Day, the Squad responded to a local restaurant for a report of a middle-aged female who had passed out. Upon the crew's arrival, she was conscious and alert. The patient stated that she began to feel dizzy during her meal and fainted after getting up to walk to the restroom. She was transported to University Medical Center at Princeton for evaluation.

The Princeton First Aid and Rescue Squad, named "Outstanding Public EMS Agency" for 2008 by the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, will celebrate 70 *years of service to the community in 2009.* For more information on volunteer or donation opportunities, please call (609) 924-3338 or visit www.pfars.org.

HELPING THE NEEDY: *Princeton Area Change for America* volunteers (from left, front row): Charlie and Shelly Yedlin, and (from left, back row): Maureen Kearney, Alison Politziner, and Fran Engler will be collecting donations for families in need on Saturday, January 10 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Hinds Plaza.

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NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

By the Rev. Peter K. Stimpson

The Rev. Peter K. Stimpson

QUESTION: ***What's the use in making New Year's Resolutions? I make them on the 1st and break them on the 2nd!***

ANSWER: Hey, don't be so optimistic! Many people make them on the 1st and break them on the 1st. But, does that mean that you should never make a New Year's Resolution? No.

Happiness is a process, not a product. It is not *something you buy on sale at Macy's, but something that you work on* each day of your life. When I was young, I thought that just over the hill were all these "normal" people, and that someday I would grow up and be like them. I assumed that would be when I turned 18, but on my 18th birthday, I felt as insecure as ever. So, I imagined that it must occur by age 21, or maybe 25. Certainly, no later than 40! Well, I am 57 and still have not gone through that magic door to perfect maturity.

As you might guess, there is no magic door, and there are no normal people. We all feel insecure. Oh, some hide under a mask of superiority, and manage to fool a great number of us. But, the truth is that they are the most insecure of all.

What it all boils down to is that your growth is an ongoing process. While we try not to see this process as a daily drudgery, we admittedly get stuck walking down the path of life. So, we need to rekindle the fire, helping ourselves get back on track. To do this, we use various points in our year to check on how we are doing and to restart our engines. Some of us use Advent or Lent, Rosh Hashana or Yom Kippur, birthdays or anniversaries, and still others use New Year's Day.

Therefore, New Year's resolutions are a good idea. However, if you think that your new start is to wipe your slate clean and begin all over again, then you have missed the point. You build on the foundation of your inner strengths, continually polishing "the diamond in the rough" that you were into the gem that you can be. You will never be "normal" or "perfect", as these states do not exist. But, you can be progressively more & more happy, and more & more mature. So, make your New Year's resolution, and, when you slip and break it, pick yourself up, dust yourself off, and keep on going.

This Wellness column is funded through the generosity of a grant from the J. Seward Johnson, Sr. Charitable Trusts. If you would like Father Stimpson to answer a question of yours on family life, daily living or emotional health, you can write to him at: Trinity Counseling Service, 22 Stockton Street, Princeton, NJ 08540. Trinity Counseling Service provides clinical or pastoral counseling on a sliding fee scale for all who need help and support. Phone Trinity Counseling Service at 609-924-0060 to set an appointment.

Mailbox

Term Ending, Township Official Thanks Supportive Colleagues and Community

To the Editor:

As I complete my term on Princeton Township Committee, I want to say how much I've enjoyed working with the many colleagues I've had on Committee, the Regional Planning Board, and the Township Zoning Board of Adjustment.

During the give and take of the decision-making process, I've tried to keep in mind that elected and appointed members of Committee, Boards, and Commissions represent all residents of the Township, and that decisions made during our terms are built on decisions our predecessors made, and will have consequences — some intended and some unknown — beyond our tenure.

I want to acknowledge and thank the members of our Boards and Commissions, often unrecognized and unsung, who give freely of their time and provide expertise and perspective that comes only with knowledge in a particular field.

I also want to recognize the outstanding Township staff. They are knowledgeable, they provide thoughtful advice, they are respectful of those who appear before our appointed and elected bodies, they keep us operating within the confines of the laws governing our operations, and they are consistently professional.

During the course of my tenure in local government, I came to recognize the significant role the institutions of higher education and research play in making our community what it is. They are commanding physical presences, they are economic drivers, they contribute to the consistent desirability of and turnover in our housing supply, they ensure demographic diversity, and they offer cultural and educational opportunities to the whole community.

We often struggle with these institutions to determine the balance between their interests and other individuals, businesses, and institutions that call Princeton "home." I don't expect these struggles to cease, but I do want to express my sense that any community that has housed such institutions for decades has treasures that provide stability, challenges, and excitement, and I am thankful to have overlapped in time and place with them.

To close, I want to thank all those who have provided support to me personally over the past years of my community service, especially my husband, Dick Bergman. I would not have been motivated or able to serve it if it weren't for him.

Thanks to all who have offered their good wishes for the next adventure I'll undertake.

VICKY BERGMAN
Leabrook Lane
Princeton Township Committee

Police Department Thanks Community For Toys Donated to Needy Children

To the Editor:

Princeton PBA 130, which represents the Patrol Officers working for the Princeton Borough Police, held its second annual toy drive this season. Even in hard economic times, the residents of Princeton came through. Dozens of new unwrapped toys were donated by members of the public and PBA members. On December 23, these toys were dropped off to HomeFront, an organization that distributes them to children in Mercer County who otherwise would go without.

PBA 130 would like to extend a huge "thank you" to all those who donated to this worthy cause. We hope you had a wonderful holiday season.

To see photos of the toys being donated, visit our website at http://www.princetonpba130.org/photos.htm.

SGT. MICHAEL BENDER
PBA 130 Member
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Crossing the Border to 2009 With Roberto Bolaño's "2666"

Metaphors are our way of losing ourselves in semblances or treading water in a sea of seeming.

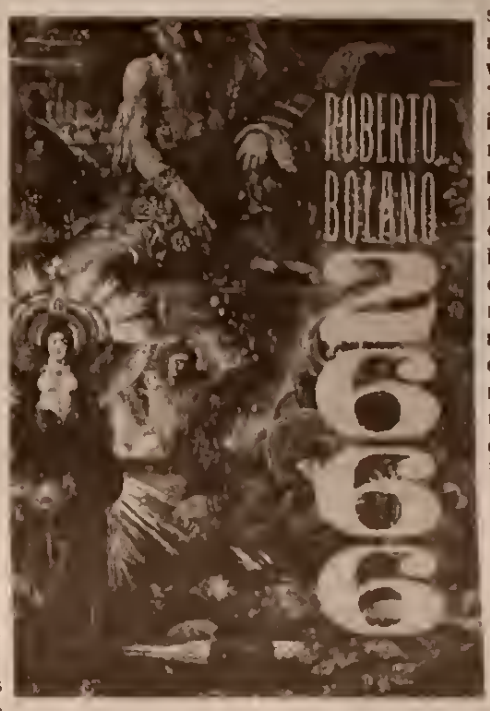
—Roberto Bolaño

So here we go across the frontier of years and what better company for the passage to 2009 than Roberto Bolaño's posthumous 893-page wonder *2666* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux $30), which Kirkus Reviews called "the finest novel of the present century," adding that "we may be saying the same thing 92 years from now." The New York Times settled for listing it as one of the Ten Best Books of 2008. Other blasts from the fanfare of acclaim: *2666* is "epochal," "truly mesmerizing and breathtaking," "a heroic achievement, a modern epic, a masterpiece," "a literary blockbuster," "inescapable, unignorable, and lasting," "an exceptionally exciting literary labyrinth" that "exerts a terrible power over the reader long after it's done." The Los Angeles Times has the author writing "in a race against death" (and so he was) "to make some final reckoning, to take life's measure, to wrestle to the limits of the void" while in the New York Times Jonathan Lethem speaks of "a landmark in what's possible for the novel as a form in our increasingly, and terrifyingly, post-national world." Even the less admiring responses were intriguing. Time called it "a dangerous book ... you can get lost in it" and Newsweek suggested that "if you're a reader who'd rather see a novelist aim for the moon, even if he falls on his face, then this is the book for you."

Surprisingly enough, the New Yorker, which in 2007 ran a lengthy, intelligent piece about Bolaño and his previous novel, *The Savage Detectives*, bypassed the challenge with an "In Brief" item that after calling *2666* "a compendium, in individual scenes, of the qualities that made him a great writer," huffily wishes that by the end "the novel cohered, rather than merely concluding." What a puny, sniveling, wretched beggar of a word is *cohered*. It's as if the nameless writer of that squib threw a styrofoam pellet, not even that, ***but the semblance of a styrofoam pellet,*** at a gale-force wind. Is it any wonder that a character in *2666* finds "all criticism ... ultimately a nightmare"?

Getting Lost

First things first: I loved reading this novel, though to say you "loved" reading the fourth and longest section, "The Part About the Crimes," would be a stretch since it's mined with the brutalized bodies of girls and women. You might as well say you love hell. The best book I read in 2008, next to this one, was Bolaño's previous novel, *The Savage Detectives*. What a blessing, that books as rich as these can even see the light at a time when the publishing business seems to be sinking along with the rest of the economy. I would gladly read the whole novel over again, right now, if only because then I might have a better shot at doing justice to it. I could also have gladly re-read Thomas Pynchon's *Against the Day* and the wild, bumpy ride of a novel I wrote about in early 2008, Alexander Theroux's *Louro Vorholic*. But neither of those immense works presented quite as massive or seductive a challenge. Consider the following exchange from the second section of *2666*, "The Part About Amalfitano," where the title character, a Chilean literature professor, is living out his exile in the haunted film noir city of Santa Teresa ("a capricious and childish beast that would have swallowed Heidegger in a single gulp if Heidegger had had the bad luck to be born on the Mexican-U.S. border"). The exchange comes after one of numerous instances of Bolaño using Amalfitano's exotic, brilliantly articulated paranoia as a vehicle for his own ideas about fiction and criticism and "shadowless intellectuals" who strive to "maintain the discipline of meter where there's only a deafening and hopeless silence." After hearing Amalfitano hold forth brilliantly on "the loss of one's shadow" in the course of a breathtaking monologue, the female member of the trio of critics who have come to him for information about a German novelist named Benno von Archimboldi tells him, "I don't understand a word you've said," to which Amalfitano replies, "Really I've just been talking nonsense."



And if you've read this far (page 123), you may already find yourself saying of Bolaño, as Ronald Reagan once said of Walter Mondale, "There he goes again!"

You may also be reminded that tomorrow, January 1, 2009, will be J.D. Salinger's 90th birthday, because it was Salinger who once dedicated a book to "the amateur reader," ***the one "who reads and runs."*** *(Compared to the mysterious Archtmboldt, Salinger* is a publicity hound.) It's not that Bolaño disdains the "serious" reader, i.e. critics and reviewers. He loves 'em to pieces; he's given them a whole world to explore. But like Joyce and Sterne and Pynchon, he enjoys creating labyrinthine traps for them to scamper inventively or foolishly around in. The Time reviewer had it right: this is a dangerous book and you can get lost in it.

On the Title

When he began the book in the late 1990s, Bolaño knew he might not live to finish the job, but by the time he died of liver cancer in 2003, he'd essentially completed the writing, and a year later, *2666* was published in Spain by Editorial Anagrama. Although he originally conceived of the novel as something comparable to the "literary blockbuster" reviewers have called it, at the time of his death he hoped to issue it as a series of five novels in order to generate more income for his children's future. Farrar Straus has reached a quasi compromise by publishing Natasha Wimmer's translation both as a single hardcover volume and in a three-volume paperback set.

According to an afterword by Bolaño's literary executor Ignacio Echevarría, the "final version" of the novel is "clear and clean" and "very nearly" what the author "intended it to be," though he undoubtedly would have worked longer on it ("but only a few months longer").

As for the significance of the title, the most likely clue that Echevarria can offer comes from Bolaño's short novel, *Amulet* (1999), where a street in Mexico City is conceived to be "more like a cemetery than an avenue, not a cemetery in 1974 or in 1968, or 1975, but a cemetery in the year 2666" — "a forgotten cemetery under the eyelid of a corpse or an unborn child" (an image Salvador Dali could do wonders with). When Natasha Wimmer was asked what she thought the title meant, she told a New York magazine interviewer that for her "it signifies remote, incomprehensible malevolence." In a novel with evil on the grand scale at its center and three of its five parts directly concerned with the rape, torture, and murder of hundreds of women (not to mention Part Five's picture of barbarism on the Russian front in World War II), it seems naive not to at least acknowledge (as Wimmer does) the presence of 666, the number of the beast from the Book of Revelations. Pronounce the title numeral by numeral in English and you don't have to be a ***compulsive punster to hear "sex" for "six," which makes a kind of sloppy sense in a*** book bursting with sexual energy.

Sexing Up the Intelligence

Bolaño is great because he gives so much. So much imagination, so much invention, so much music, so much sheer literary pleasure. He's earthy and baroque, slinging metaphors and "semblances" (or oporiencio, one of the most stressed and loaded terms in the book) like a drunken cowboy on a shooting spree; he rocks and he rolls; he's a one-man band. With his vagabond sensibility, he's at home anywhere in the world. He can be as twistedly sinister as David Lynch at his scariest, and then turn around and spin prose cadenzas that make you think of Charlie Parker and Sonny Rollins.

The sexual energy I mentioned is another of Bolaño's gifts. Women and girls in *2666* are more often than not attractive, fascinating, desirable, intelligent and creative beings, which makes an unsettling and yet somehow exhilarating contrast to the multitude of woman and girls whose bodies weigh so heavily on the narrative in "The Part About the Crimes." The first female character in the book is a Brit named Norton, the eminently desirable critic who admitted that she didn't understand a word of what Amalfitano said. Bolaño's insistence on referring to her by her last name in the book's first section, "The Part About the Critics," is a subtle form of titillation. You know that sooner or later that these "last names" are going to get physical, which happens when Norton has sex, alternately, with both the Frenchman Pelletier and the Spaniard Espinoza, only to settle down with the Italian Morini. And it's no coincidence that after hearing that incomprehensible dissertation on "shadowless intellectuals," she decides to take both Pelletier and Espinoza to bed with her for the first and only time.

A Torrential Work

While Bolaño may never have actually called *2666* his *Moby-Dick*, he must have conceived of the documentation of evil in Santa Teresa as a gruesome version of Melville's scholarly documenting of whaling and whales in *Moby-Dick*. He's almost certainly reflecting on his own project when he has Amalfitano thinking it "sad" that an eager young reader would choose *Bartleby* over *Moby-Dick* among Melville's creations for fear of taking on "the great, imperfect, torrential works, books that blaze paths into the unknown" and "struggle against that something that terrifies us all, that something that cows us and spurs us on, amid blood and mortal wounds and stench."

On that note, one of numerous instances where Bolaño offers critics and reviewers juicy quotes with which to describe *2666*, I have to close up shop without so much as scratching the surface of the third section, "The Part About Fate," in which an African American reporter who uses the pen name Oscar Fate finds himself in Santa Teresa falling in love with Amalfitano's daughter, Rosa, while steering her through a miasma of sheer menace that makes David Lynch's *Twin Peaks* seem like *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood*. It was ***this section, which begins in Detroit, that Natasha Wimmer found the "trickiest" to*** translate: "Try channeling an African-American narrator as imagined by a transplanted Chilean who never set foot in the United States."

And try getting at *2666* in under 2000 words. Maybe I can manage a sequel.

Last Words

According to the afterword, Roberto Bolaño left this note for the end of *2666*: "And that's it, friends. I've done it all. I've lived it all. If I had the strength, I'd cry. I bid you all goodbye."

Three copies of *2666* are at the Princeton Public Library. Don't let the length discourage you. This is a wonderfully readable book, a joy, in fact. And don't let "The Part About the Crimes" scare you away. The next and concluding section, "The Part About Archimboldi," is teeming with riches that will send you right back to the beginning.

—Stuart Mitchner

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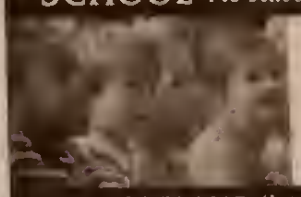

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Calendar

Wednesday, December 31

1 p.m.: The Fifes & Drums of the Old Barracks Concert (Military Music of the 18th Century); Masonic Temple, Front and Barrack Streets, Trenton. For reservations, call (609) 396-1776.

6 p.m.: *Solute to Vienno*; State Theatre, New Brunswick.

7:30 and 9:30 p.m.: Gary Delena and Chris Rich; Catch A Rising Star Comedy Club, Hyatt Regency. Also Saturday at 7:30 and 9:30 p.m.

8 p.m.: Greater Trenton Symphony Orchestra; Patriots Theater at the War Memorial, Trenton.

Thursday, January 1
New Year's Day

Friday, January 2

7:30 p.m.: New Jersey Symphony Orchestra's "Best of Vienna" concert; Patriots Theater at the War Memorial, Trenton.

Saturday, January 3

3 p.m.: Arts Council of Princeton's Classic Comedy Cavalcade, screening of short films with film historian Bruce Lawton; Solley Theater, Paul Robeson Center for the Arts, 102 Witherspoon Street.

7:30 p.m.: West Windsor symphony orchestra *Sinfonietto Nova*; Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Princeton Junction.

7:45 p.m.: Central Jersey Dance Society California Mix dance; Unitarian Church, 50 Cherry Hill Road.

Monday, January 5
Recycling

Tuesday, January 6

5.30 p.m.: Book Group discussion of Toni Morrison's *A Mercy*, led by Beth Machlan, Ph.D.; Labyrinth Books, 122 Nassau Street.

Wednesday, January 7

8 p.m.: *Cirque Dreoms Jungle Fantosy*; State Theatre, New Brunswick. Also Thursday at 8 p.m.

Thursday, January 8

7 p.m.: Screening of Silvio Soldini's *Doys and Clouds* (in Italian with English subtitles); Lawrence Branch, Mercer County Library, 2751 Brunswick Pike, Lawrenceville.

8 p.m.: Jazz at the Robeson Center with Ralph Bowen Quartet; Solley Theater, Paul Robeson Center for the Arts, 102 Witherspoon Street.

Friday, January 9

7 and 10 p.m.: *The Beot is Sweet: Memory of o Broken Dreom*; Matthews Acting Studio, 185 Nassau Street. Also Saturday at 7 and 10 p.m., Sunday at 3 p.m.

8 p.m.: Princeton University student production of Claudio Monteverdi's opera *The Return of Ulysses*; Richardson Auditorium. Also Saturday at 8 p.m.

8 p.m.: Edward Albee's *Who's Afroid of Virginio Woolf?*; Kelsey Theatre, Mercer County Community College. Also Saturday at 8 p.m., Sunday at 2 p.m.

8 to 10:15 p.m.: Dance Improv; All Saints' Church, 16 All Saints' Road.

Saturday, January 10

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.: "Cans, Clothes & Coins" drive; Albert E. Hinds Plaza, Princeton Public Library.

11 a.m.: Environmental Film Festival; Princeton Public Library. Free.

7:30 p.m.: West Windsor Film Series screening of Liev Schreiber's *Everything Is Illuminoted*; West Windsor Branch, Mercer County Library, 333 North Post Road, West Windsor.

8 p.m.: New Jersey Symphony Orchestra; State Theatre, New Brunswick.

Sunday, January 11

2 p.m.: Screening of *12 Angry Men*; Lawrence Branch, Mercer County Library, 2751 Brunswick Pike, Lawrenceville. To register, call (609) 989-6920.

3 p.m.: NAMI Mercer Annual Fund-raising Concert with Dr. Richard Kogan, "The Mind and Music of George Gershwin"; Music Building, The College of New Jersey, Ewing.

3 p.m.: Greater Trenton *Choral Society performance of Mozart's Requiem*; Abiding Presence Lutheran Church, 2220 Pennington Road, Ewing.

5:30 p.m.: NAMI Mercer "Night Out with NAMI" dinner and auction; Eickhoff Hall, The College of New Jersey, Ewing. For information, call (609) 799-8994.

Monday, January 12

4 p.m.: Historic Preservation Commission; Township Municipal Complex, 400 Witherspoon Street.

7:30 p.m.: Talk by Princeton Academy of the Sacred Heart headmaster Olen Kalkus, "Engaging Boys in Reading and Learning"; Princeton Public Library.

Tuesday, January 13

7:30 p.m.: Cineclub Series Screening of award-winning Belgian film *Ben X*; Princeton Public Library.

7:30 p.m.: Writers Talking Series talk by Richard Fleming, author of *Wolking to Guontonomo*; Princeton Public Library.

Clubs

The **Lawrence Sight-Reading Orchestra** will meet on Tuesday, January 6 at the Lawrence Senior Center, 30 East Darrah Lane, at 7:30 p.m. to rehearse Christmas Concerto by Corelli, Symphony No. 101 (*The Clock*) by Haydn, and Symphony No. 2 by Beethoven.

For more information, call (609) 452-8257.

The **West Windsor Republican Club** will hold a series of public service presentations over the next several months with no charge for participants. The inaugural program will be held at Mercer Oaks Club, 725 Village Road West, West Windsor, on Thursday, January 8 at 7 p.m. in the Assembly Room. A cash bar will open at 6:30 p.m. The meeting topic will be "An Overview of West Windsor's Government." The speaker will be former Mayor Carole Carson, who also served as a Member of Council.

Other topics to be presented in coming months include redevelopment around the Princeton Junction train station, local government finances, rules and impact of affordable housing, and public safety services.

For more information, call (609) 468-9871, visit www.wwgop.org, or e-mail the club at wwgop1@gmail.com.

55PLUS will hear a talk by Michael Gordin, Ph.D., titled "How Stalin Got His Bomb: Information and the End of the American Atomic Monopoly" at its meeting on Thursday, January 8 at 10 a.m. at the Jewish Center of Princeton. The meeting is open to the public.

Dr. Gordin, an Associate Professor of History at Princeton University, specializes in the history of the modern physical sciences and Imperial Russian and Soviet history. He came to Princeton in 2003 after earning his A.B. (1996) and his Ph.D. (2001) from Harvard, and serving a term at the Harvard Society of Fellows.

The Soviet Union detonated its first atomic device in 1949, only four years after the U.S. had developed and used its own atomic bombs. Prof. Gordin's talk will look at the Soviet atomic bomb project from the inside: how the Soviets assembled the necessary information and material to construct the bomb and then detonated it in the deserts of Kazakhstan in 1949.

The **Princeton YWCA Newcomers Club** will host a Friday with Friends meeting on Friday, January 9 from 11:45 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the YWCA Princeton Multipurpose Room. Mary Kay Krokowski of Aging Advisors LLC will share her knowledge of medical issues related to the elderly, long-term care, and rehabilitation, and experience with senior residential living options and senior services. Lunch will be available for a nominal fee; reservations are not required.

The club will also hold a Social Coffee on Thursday, January 15 from 9:30 to 11 a.m. at the YWCA Princeton Bramwell House, to introduce prospective members to the Club and what it has to offer.

For more information, call the YWCA Princeton at (609) 497-2100.

The **Piano Teachers Forum** will meet on Friday, January 9 at 9:30 a.m. (with coffee at 9 a.m.) at Jacobs Music on Route 1 in Lawrence Township. Non-members are welcome for a $10 fee at the door.

The program will be "Blues, Song Writing, and Show Performance" by "Stormin' Norman" Seldin, assistant manager of Jacobs Music.

For directions or more information about the Piano Teachers Forum, call Jean Parsons at (609) 921-1510.

The **SeniorNet Computer Literacy Center**, Ewing, will host a free program titled "Cloud Computing" on Tuesday, January 13 at 1:30 p.m. in the Ewing Senior and Community Center, 999 Lower Ferry Road.

The presentation will be the latest in SeniorNet's "Computer Tips and Tricks" series presented on the second Tuesday of each month. It will be preceded at 1 p.m. by an open question and answer session during which audience members can address their own computer questions to members of the SeniorNet volunteer faculty.

"Cloud Computing means that all the software you need is available to you on the Web rather than on your personal computer's hard drive," said SeniorNet Computer Literacy Center instructor Joel May, who will lead the discussion. "It also means you can access your data from any computer anywhere in the world and share it with others effortlessly."

For more information about the program or directions call (609) 882-5086 or visit www.ewingsnet.com.

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Art

Silva Gallery Hosting New Work By Local Artist Anne Elliott Jan. 9

The Silva Gallery in Pennington is presenting "Immortal Mountains, Hallowed Caves," the landscape evocations of Anne Elliott, an artist who has been living in the Princeton area for the past 16 years. The exhibition will run from January 9 to February 5, with a reception on January 9 from 6 to 8 p.m.

Ms. Elliott's most recent work is the result of a trip to China in 2006 where she found subjects including the Mogao Caves at Dunhuang, an oasis on the Silk Road, and the 36 peaks of Huangshan (Yellow Mountain), southwest of Shanghai. Her goal is to convey the physical presence and the emotional experience of these places by taking landscape art into the three-dimensional realm, manipulating rice paper that has been painted to suggest rock. The folds and creases of the painted paper produce the shadows and highlights of the natural world. While these works vary in size from small to monumental, none of them attempts to evoke a realistic illustration of a particular scene so much as the feeling of a site most expressive of the artist's personal vision of nature.

Ms. Elliott has had one-person exhibitions at the Graham Gallery in New York, The Westmoreland, Johnstown, and Blair Museums in Pennsylvania, The Hewlett Gallery of Carnegie-Mellon and the Center for the Arts at SUNY Purchase, among others. In New York she has shown at the Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters, CDS Gallery, The Elsa Mott Ives Gallery, 14 Sculptors Gallery and others. Regionally, her work has appeared in group shows at the Carnegie Museum in Pittsburgh, The Fine Arts Museum of Long Island, The New Jersey Center for Visual Arts in Summit, School 33 Art Center in Baltimore, the Robeson Gallery at Penn State, the Pittsburgh Plan for Art, and The Ellarslie Museum of Trenton. Two years ago she had a two-person show, "Domestic Expectations and Upheavals" at the Arts Council of Princeton. Last year she received the Groenendahl Award, at the "Annual Art Exhibition", Phillips Mill Association, New Hope, Pa. She was awarded a fellowship by the Arts Council Of Pennsylvania while residing in that state. Her work was selected as one of 25 best art investments by the critic, John Gruen, in an article In Working Woman Magazine.

The Silva Gallery is located in the Campus Center of The Pennington School, 112 W. Delaware Avenue in Pennington. Hours are Monday through Thursday 1 to 5 p.m. or by appointment. For more information call (609) 737-8069, ext. 400, or visit www.pennington.org or www.anne-elliott.com.

"FLYING OVER CANYON TRAIL": Made using painted rice paper this work by Anne Elliott is among the landscape evocations on view in "Immortal Mountains, Hallowed Caves," at The Silva Gallery in Pennington from January 9 to February 5, with a reception on January 9 from 6 to 8 p.m.

"FLOWER (NUMBER 11)": This photograph from 1993 is the work of Amanda Means, whose photography will be on display at Grounds for Sculpture's Toad Hall Shop & Gallery from January 10 to April 5. A public reception will be held on Saturday, January 10, from 2 to 4 p.m. Grounds for Sculpture is at 14 Fairgrounds Road, Hamilton, and is open Tuesday to Sunday, 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information visit www.groundsforsculpture.org.

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AMONG THE WINNERS: This water color by Joan McKinney is one of the 18 prize-winners on view in the D&R Greenway Land Trust and the Garden State Watercolor Society (GSWS) current exhibition, "A Brush With Nature," which will be at The Johnson Education Center until January 9. It is the group's 39th open juried exhibition. All art is for sale, with 35 percent of the proceeds supporting D&R Greenway's land preservation and stewardship mission. The exhibition can be viewed during business days, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at One Preservation Place, Princeton. Call for availability and directions: (609) 924-4646.

Lambertville Exhibit Requests Submissions

The Lambertville Historical Society and the Coryell Gallery are preparing the 29th Annual Juried Art Exhibition titled "Lambertville and the Surrounding Area," which will be held from February 1 through March 15, with a reception on Sunday February 1 from 3 to 6 p.m.

Artists are invited to submit one painting in oil, watercolor, gouache, casein, collage or drawing, or artists prints. The subject must be of Lambertville or its surroundingings, including the New Hope area. All works must be delivered to the gallery Wednesday, January 14 through Sunday, January 18 during gallery hours, noon to 5. The work must be for sale, suitably framed and ready for hanging. The size limit is 40" in width and length, including the frame. The entry fee is $20.

Members of the Society will select a painting to be raffled by selling tickets during the show to benefit the Society. There will be cash awards from the Historical Society, Coryell Gallery and the Hunterdon County Cultural & Heritage Commission and others to be announced.

Rhoda Yanow, of Whitehouse Station, New Jersey, has been invited to jury the show this year. She studied at the Parsons School of Design and the National Academy of Design. She has taught at the DuCret School of Art and the Pastel Academy of Design School. A member of Allied Artists of America, Audubon Artists, Pastel Society of America, National Association of Women Artists, among others, she has received awards throughout the U.S. and abroad, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Connecticut Pastel Society, and a Gold Medal Award from the Audubon Artists.

The Coryell Gallery, at the Porkyard, 8 Coryell Street, Lambertville, is in a renovated Sausage Factory, down an alley, located alongside the historic Delaware & Raritan Canal. Hours are Wednesday through Sunday 12 to 5 p.m. For further information call Director Janet M. Hunt at (609) 397-0804.

"COMING TO SMALL WORLD": Paintings and collages by Princeton resident Elina Lorenz will be on display at Small World at 14 Witherspoon Street in "Sublime Colors," from January 6 through February 3. The paintings mix styles and media ranging from abstract to realism to folk art. To see the artist's online gallery: visit www.sublime-colors.com.

"CHEER UP": This work by Diane Marimow is going to be on display in the Anne Reid '72 Art Gallery at Princeton Day School in "24/7 access," a ceramics exhibit featuring the work of 10 associate artists from The Clay Studio in Philadelphia. Curated by PDS advanced ceramics students under the supervision of ceramics teacher Monika Jaeckle, the show will run January 7 to 29. Students have played a key role in this exhibition, visiting the studio to select works for display, helping install the show and hosting a dinner for participating artists. An opening reception will be held from 5-7 p.m. Friday, January 9, in the gallery on the PDS campus. The public is welcome to view the exhibit 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday when school is open and by appointment on weekends. For an appointment, call (609) 924-6700.

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Area Exhibits

The Arts Council of Princeton will begin the new year with "Beyond the Document: Color Field Photography, which will feature recent work by six contemporary photographers and run from January 12 to April 4 in the Peg and Frank Taplin Gallery. In the lower level, the faculty spotlight will be on photographer Bruce Berenson.

The Bernstein Gallery at the Woodrow Wilson School will be presenting "Imagined Landscapes," photographs by Ernestine Ruben, through February 13.

Brodsky Center Gallery, The Heldrich, 10 Livingston Avenue, New Brunswick, is presenting "Sacred Spaces," an exhibition of 80 photographs by Mary Cross, which will run through January 4. The subjects are wall paintings and mosaics found in ancient churches, monasteries, and mosques located in Greece, Cyprus, and Turkey.

The Coryell Gallery at 8 Coryell Street in Lambertville is presenting a special holiday exhibition of the work of Joanne S. Scott and George Van Hook through January 11.

The D&R Greenway Land Trust at One Preservation Place in Princeton is presenting "A Brush With Nature," an exhibition featuring works by 50 members of The Garden State Watercolor Society, which will run through January 9 in D&R Greenway's Marie L. Matthews Gallery. The show is free and open to the public during business days, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Firestone Library on the Princeton University campus is presenting, "Egypt Unveiled: The Mission of Napoleon's Savants" in the main gallery through Sunday, May 10. "Sketching Their Characters: 150 Years of Political Cartoons From Andrew Jackson to George H.W. Bush" will be in the Milberg Gallery until Sunday, January 4.

The Gallery at Chapin will be presenting "Images: Lost and Found," a joint exhibit featuring Ann Calandro and Valerie Young from January 3 through 30, with a reception on Wednesday, January 7, from 5 to 7 p.m. For further information, call (609) 924-7206.

Gallery 14 in Hopewell will present a joint exhibit of work by member photographers Edward F. Greenblat ("Sanctuary") and David Mifler ("Northern Light"). The exhibit opening is set for January 2 from 6 to 9 p.m. Meet the Photographers on January 4 from 1 to 3 p.m.

Grounds for Sculpture will be featuring the photography of Amanda Means in the Toad Hall Shop & Gallery from January 10 through April 5. A public reception will be held on Saturday, January 10 from 2 to 4 p.m. "A Twist of Art" featuring William Smith is on view through December 31. Three exhibitions of contemporary sculpture are open to the public through April 26: "Inspired Visions," exhibiting the work of Allan Houser. "Visions of the Mind," displaying sculptures by Michael Naranjo, and the International Sculpture Center's 2008 Outstanding Student Achievement in Contemporary Sculpture Awards. New Additions Outdoors in the sculpture park include works by Carol Feuerman, Mike Gyampo, Gloria Vanderbilt and Autin Dean Wright. For more information, visit www.groundsforsculpture.org.

The Historical Society of Princeton, located in Bainbridge House at 158 Nassau Street in Princeton, is presenting "Stand Up, Speak Out: Princeton's Citizens Find Their Voice," through July 5. For more information, call (609) 921-6748 or visit www.princetonhistory.org.

The James A. Michener Art Museum at 138 South Pine Street in Doylestown is presenting "Saving Face: Portraits from the Collection of Robert Infarinato," through March 15. The exhibit features portraits of celebrities, including Marilyn Monroe, Matisse, and Picasso, by photographers such as Ansel Adams, Robert Capa, Henri Cartier-Bresson, and Man Ray. An exhibition of welded bronze sculptures by Philadelphia artist Barry Parker will be on display as part of the ongoing Outdoor Sculpture Program through March 1. "Shifting Ground: Contemporary Landscapes by Paula Chamlee, Alan Goldstein and Paul Matthews," will be on view in the Wachovia Gallery through March 1.

The last show before the New Hope branch of the Michener permanently closes is "Claus Mroczynski: Sacred Places of the Southwest," which includes 49 black and white photographs of Native American ruins and Southwest landscapes. The exhibition is on view in the Della Penna Gallery through February 1.

The Jane Vorhees Zimmerli Art Museum in New Brunswick is presenting "Inspired by Literature: Art and Fine Books," through July 5; "Performing the Archive: Collective Actions in the 1970s-80s," through April 12; and "The Appointing Gesture: The Worlds and Images of Dmitry Prigov," through January 18. The Zimmerli is located at 71 Hamilton Street on the College Avenue campus of Rutgers University in New Brunswick.

Marihoe Gallery and The Community Arts Partnership at the Peddie School (CAPPS) in Hightstown will be presenting an exhibition of photographs by José Ruiz and Nick Guilbert, through January 3.

Mercer County Library, Lawrence Branch, 2751 Brunswick Pike, Lawrenceville, is presenting "Voices for the Marsh 2008-09," a juried photography exhibit, through January 5. The show celebrates the plants, wildlife, habitats, and vistas found at the Hamilton - Trenton - Bordentown Marsh.

Morven Museum & Garden is presenting "Picturing Princeton 1783: The Nation's Capital" through January 11. For more information, call Morven at (609) 924-8144, ext. 106. Free parking is available.

The New Jersey State Museum at 205 West State Street in Trenton will host the 2008 New Jersey Arts Annual Crafts juried exhibition, "Transformations," through March 15.

Princeton Day School is hosting "24/7 access," which features the work of 10 associate artists from The Clay Studio in Philadelphia; the show will run from January 7 to 29 in the Anne Reid '72 Art Gallery. An opening reception will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, January 9, in the gallery on the PDS campus.

The Princeton University Art Museum is presenting "Jasper Johns: Light Bulb," through January 4; "Frank Gehry: On Line," through January 4; and "Félix Candela: Engineer, Builder, Structural Artist," through February 22. "Body Memory," which features 20th- and 21st-century works of art that focus on the body as subject, medium, or expressive device, will run through January 4.

Riverrun Gallery at The Laceworks, 287 South Main Street, Lambertville, will be presenting "Recent Paintings by Sven Widen and Lizzi Schippert" through January 5.

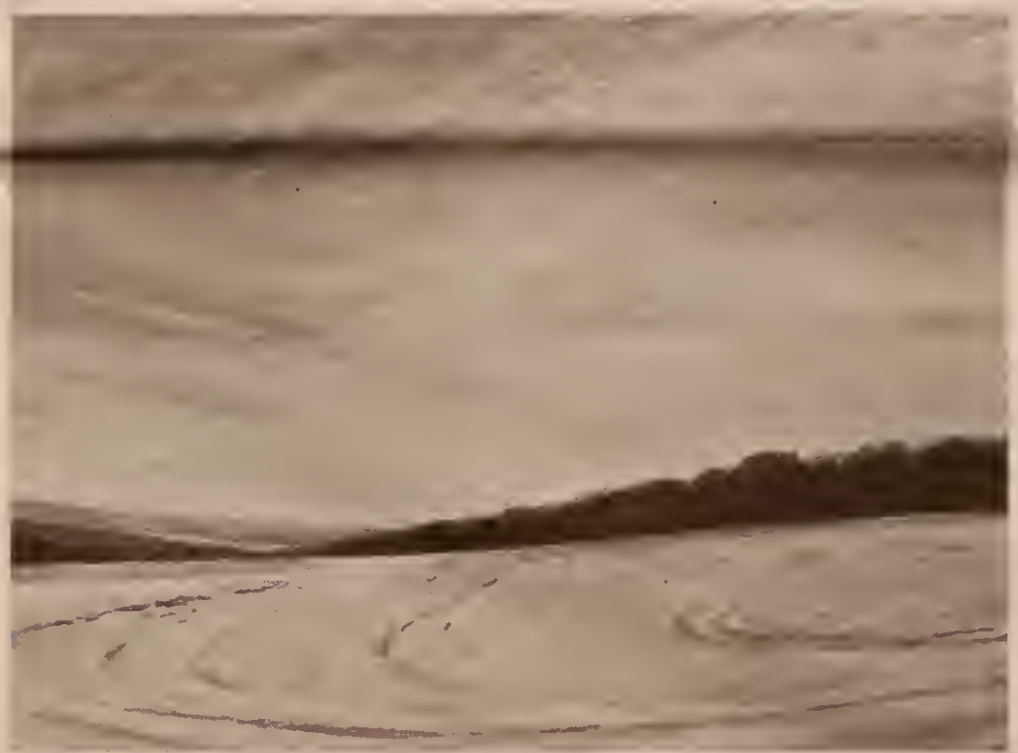
The Silva Gallery in the Campus Center of The Pennington School, 112 W. Delaware Avenue, in Pennington, is presenting "Immortal Mountains, Hallowed Caves," the landscape evocations of Anne Elliott, from January 9 to February 5. There will be a reception on Tuesday, January 9, from 6 to 8 p.m. Hours are Monday through Thursday 1 to 5 p.m. or by appointment. For more information, call (609) 737-8069, Ext. 400.

The Schotland Gallery, 123 Main Street, in Flemington is presenting photographer Robert S. Schotland's "Spiritual Splendor of Indochina" through January 17. Gallery hours are by appointment.

Small World Coffee at 14 Witherspoon Street will be presenting "Sublime Colors," an exhibit of work by Elina Lorenz from January 6 through February 3.

The Trenton City Museum at Ellarslie Mansion is hosting an exhibit of works from New Jersey toymaker, J. Chein and Company through March 22. Noted tin toy authority Alan Jaffe will speak at 2 p.m. on January 11.

The University Medical Center at Princeton is presenting an exhibit featuring the watercolors of Karen Bannister and Alice Warshaw, which will run through January 14. This exhibit may be viewed daily in the University Medical Center Dining Room from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.



"AMWELL VALLEY WINTER": This oil painting by Joe Kazimierczyk is part of a Gallery Members Group Show at the Artists' Gallery in Lambertville from January 9 through February 1. The gallery is located at 32 Coryell Street and the doors are open every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and by appointment. (Photo by John Ireland)

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CINEMA REVIEW

The Curious Case of Benjamin Button

Brad Pitt Stars in Adaptation of F. Scott Fitzgerald Story

Loosely based on the short story of the same name by F. Scott Fitzgerald, *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button* is a melancholy movie about love, mortality, and loneliness revolving around a baby (Brad Pitt) who is born old and who becomes younger over the course of his life. The story was adapted by Academy Award-winner Eric Roth (*Forrest Gump*) who managed to stretch a short story into a 167-minute parable of Biblical proportions.

Directed by David Fincher, the film opens in New Orleans at the end of the First World War as Benjamin's mother (Joeanna Sayler) is dying during childbirth. The baby's father (Jason Flemyng), after seeing his inexplicably aged infant for the first time, proceeds to wrap him in swaddling clothes and, unable to bring himself to drown the child, abandons him on the back steps of a local old folks' home. Fortunately, the baby is discovered and adopted by the home's nurse, Miss Queenie (Taraji P. Henson), who altruistically decides to care for him.

Although her odd looking baby is initially beset by an assortment of infirmities that are characteristic of an elderly person, Queenie notices that there is something different about Benjamin. While the residents of the home age and die, the child miraculously becomes more vigorous, gradually gets back his hearing, his eyesight, grows hair, learns to walk, etc.

Eventually, Benjamin becomes independent enough to leave Queenie and the home and he sets out to explore the world. With an uncanny sense of timing — reminiscent of Forrest Gump — he embarks on a journey which lands him in the middle of a number of historical events such as a World War II naval battle and a NASA rocket launch.

Whereas Forrest repeated the refrain "My momma always said, 'Life is like a box of chocolates, you never know what you're gonna get,'" Benjamin repeats Queenie's maternal words of wisdom — "You never know what's coming for you." The parallels between the two movies don't end there. Like Forrest Gump, Benjamin has an endearing naivete about him, and he also yearns for an elusive love interest (Cate Blanchett).

THUS BEGINS "THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON": Miss Queenie (Taraji P. Henson) is holding the foundling that was left on the steps of the old people's home where she lives and works. She has decided that, even though the infant looks like an old man, she will raise him as if he were her own.

All of these similarities may be because Eric Roth wrote the script for both movies, and he seems to be attempting to use some of the same devices that won him an Oscar for *Gump*. Of course Button's reverse aging is unique, and makes for a novel and compelling plotline. Additionally, Fincher's painstaking attention to the details in the scenes of each era is spectacular.

The film is a morose morality play that is likely to land its share of accolades during the awards season, provided everyone stops comparing it to *Forrest Gump*.

Excellent (★★★½) Rated PG-13 for profanity, sexuality, smoking, and brief war violence. Running time: 167 minutes. Studio: Paramount Pictures.

—Kam Williams

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AT THE CINEMA

Bedtime Stories (PG for crude humor and mild epithets). Adam Sandler stars in this fanciful fairy tale about a hotel handyman whose life changes when the imaginative bedtime stories he shares with his niece (Laura Ann Kesling) and nephew (Jonathan Morgan Heit) magically start becoming true. Cast includes Courteney Cox, Richard Griffiths, Gut Pearce, Keri Russell, and Tessa Palmer.

Balt (PG for mild action and scenes of peril). Disney animated adventure about a German Shepherd TV star (John Travolta) who discovers he doesn't really have any superpowers after being accidentally shipped from Hollywood to New York City when he has to embark on a humbling cross-country trek home with the help of a cat (Susie Essman) and a hamster (Mark Walton). Voice cast includes Miley Cyrus, James Lipton, Malcolm McDowell, and wrestler Randy Savage.

The Curiaus Case of Benjamin Button (PG-13 for profanity, sexuality, smoking, and brief war violence). Brad Pitt shares the title role with several other actors in David Fincher's adaptation of F. Scott Fitzgerald's classic tale about a man born old who gradually grows younger over the course of his life. Cast includes Cate Blanchett, Tilda Swinton, Taraji P. Henson, and Elle Fanning.

The Day the Earth Stood Still (PG-13 for violence and disaster images). Keanu Reeves stars in this remake of the 1951 sci-fi classic about an alien who arrives on Earth with an indestructible robot to issue a dire warning for humanity about living in harmony with nature. Ensemble includes Jennifer Connelly, Kathy Bates, John Cleese, and Jaden Smith.

Defiance (R for violence and profanity). Oscar-winner Edward Zwick (for Shakespeare in Love) directs this harrowing tale of survival, set in occupied Poland during World War II, recounting the heroic efforts of three brothers (Daniel Craig, Liev Schreiber and Jamie Bell) who escape into the forest where they join forces with Russian resistance fighters to save over 1,000 fellow Jews from the Nazis.

Doubt (PG-13 for mature themes). Drama set in the Bronx in 1964, about a nun (Meryl Streep) serving as a Catholic school principal who becomes suspicious about her parish priest's (Philip Seymour Hoffman) motivations when he takes a special interest in her first black student (Joseph Foster). Cast includes Viola Davis and Amy Adams.

Four Christmoses (PG-13 for profanity and sexual humor). Family comedy, set in San Francisco, about an unhappily married couple (Vince Vaughn and Reese Witherspoon) forced to spend the holidays with several sets of relatives after their plans for an exotic getaway are ruined when the fog rolls in. Cast includes Robert Duvall, Mary Steenburgen, Dwight Yoakam, Tim McGraw, Jon Voight, Sissy Spacek, Jon Favreau, and Kristin Chenoweth.

Frost/Nixon (R for profanity). Ron Howard directs this screen adaptation of the Tony winning Broadway play recounting the series of television interviews conducted by British talk show host David Frost (Michael Sheen) with Richard Nixon (Frank Langella) in 1977, three years after the disgraced U.S. President resigned from office in the wake of the Watergate scandal. Supporting cast includes Toby Jones, Kevin Bacon, Oliver Platt, and Sam Rockwell.

Gran Torino (R for profanity, ethnic slurs, and violence). Clint Eastwood directed and co-stars in this drama about a recently widowed Korean war veteran who begrudgingly befriends his Asian-American next-door neighbor (Bee Vang) after the troubled teen tries to steal his classic muscle car. Cast includes Brian Haley, Christopher Carley, and John Carroll Lynch.

Marley & Me (PG for mature themes and suggestive language). Jennifer Aniston and Owen Wilson co-star in this family comedy about a couple of newlyweds who move from Michigan to Florida where they learn a host of life lessons from their mischievous Labrador retriever as he grows from a cute puppy into an uncontrollable, 100-pound steamroller. Supporting cast includes Alan Arkin and syndicated columnist Dave Barry.

Milk (R for profanity, sexuality, and violence). Sean Penn plays Harvey Milk in this biopic about the gay San Francisco politician assassinated in 1978 by a Republican colleague (Josh Brolin) who successfully raised the "Twinkie defense" to beat the murder rap. Cast includes James Franco, Emile Hirsch, Alison Pill, and Diego Luna.

Quantum af Solace (PG-13 for sexuality, violence, and intense action sequences). Daniel Craig returns for his second movie as James Bond for a mission which pits 007 against a diabolical villain (Mathieu Amalric) bent on controlling one of the world's most critical natural resources. Cast includes Dame Judi Dench, Jesper Christensen, Jeffrey Wright, Olga Kurylenko, and Gemma Arterton.

The Reoder (R for nudity and sexuality) Post-WWII drama about a young, German law student (Ralph Fiennes) who re-encounters a secret ex-lover (Kate Winslet) twice his age while observing the Nazi war trials where she's a defendant accused of committing a heinous crime against humanity.

Revalutionary Road (R for profanity, sexuality, and nudity). Titanic's Leonardo DiCaprio and Kate Winslet reunite for this screen adaptation of Richard Yates' best-seller, set in the fifties, about a married couple in crisis who move from Connecticut to Paris to escape suburbia while trying to revitalize their relationship.

Seven Pounds (PG-13 for mature themes, sensuality, and disturbing content). Will Smith stars in this tale of redemption about a guilt ridden widower who opts to perform seven acts of kindness for perfect strangers before committing suicide. Cast includes Rosario Dawson, Woody Harrelson, Barry Pepper, and Michael Ealy.

Slumdog Millionoire (R for violence, profanity, and disturbing images). Romantic comedy, set in Mumbai, about an 18-year-old street urchin (Dev Patel) who becomes a TV contestant on India's version of *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire* not for the money but to win back the heart of the girl (Freida Pinto) of his dreams. In English and Hindi with subtitles.

The Spirit (PG-13 for stylized violence, sexuality, and brief nudity). Frank Miller directs this screen adaptation of Will Eisner's superhero comic book series about a murdered rookie cop (Gabriel Macht) who returns from the dead as a crime-fighting masked crusader. Cast includes Samuel L. Jackson, Scarlett Johansson, and Eva Mendes.

The Tole of Despereaux (G). Animated adventure about a big-eared mouse (Matthew Devereaux) challenged to summon up the courage to save a beautiful princess (Emma Watson) kidnapped by an evil rat (Dustin Hoffman). Voice cast includes Frank Langella, Sigourney Weaver, Christopher Lloyd, Kevin Kline, Richard Jenkins, William H. Macy, Tracy Ullman, and Stanley Tucci.

Twilight (PG-13 for violence and sensuality). Horror film revolving around the unlikely romance which arises between a beautiful young woman (Kristen Stewart) and a mysterious immortal vampire (Robert Pattinson) irresistibly lured by her primal scent.

Valkyrie (PG-13 for violence and brief profanity). Tom Cruise stars in this true World War II tale about several high-ranking Nazi officers who conspire to assassinate Adolf Hitler (David Bamber) in July of 1944. Cast includes Bill Nighy, Terence Stamp, Carice van Houten, Kenneth Branagh, Eddie Izzard, Tom Wilkinson, and Thomas Kretschmann. In English and German with subtitles.

The Wrestler (R for violence, nudity, sexuality, profanity, and drug use). Mickey Rourke plays the title role in this drama about a washed-up pro wrestler who comes out of retirement, despite suffering a heart attack, for one last match against his old nemesis (Ernest Miller). Supporting cast includes Marisa Tomei, Evan Rachel Wood, and Judah Friedlander.

Yes Mon (PG-13 for profanity, sexuality, crude humor, and brief nudity). Jim Carrey comedy about a guy in a self-help program which has him answering "yes" to every question for a year. With Zooey Deschanel, Bradley Cooper, and Sasha Alexander.

—Kam Williams

Tap Videa Rentals
Week of December 23-29

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1 *Mamma Mia*
2 *Dutchess*
3 *Death Race*
4 *Burn After Reading*
5 *Eagle Eye*

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Fri.-Sat
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Sun.-Thurs
1:50, 3:25, 4:30, 6:10, 7:10 (R)

MILK
Fri.-Sat.
1:40, 4:25, 7:10, 8:55, 9:55
Sun.-Thurs
1:40, 4:25, 7:10 (R)

VALKYRIE
Fri.-Sat
1:55, 4:35, 7:15, 9:55
Sun.-Thurs
1:55, 4:35, 7:15 (PG13)

DOUBT
Fri.-Sat
2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45
Sun.-Thurs
2:30, 4:55, 7:20 (PG13)

THE READER
Fri.-Sat
1:45, 4:25, 7:05, 9:45
Sun.-Thurs
1:45, 4:25, 7:05 (R)

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Sun, Jan. 4:
12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 9:00
Mon-Wed, Dec. 5-7:
7:00, 9:45
Thurs, Jan. 8:
8:00
(R) 2:18

SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE
Fri-Sat, Jan. 2-3:
12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15
Sun, Jan. 4:
1:30, 4:15, 6:45, 9:15
Mon-Wed, Jan. 5-7:
7:15, 9:45
Thurs, Jan. 8:
8:30
(R) 2:10

Current Cinema

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Slumdog Millionaire (R) Fri.-Sat., 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15, Sun., 1:30, 4:15, 6:45, 9:15; Mon.-Weds., 7:15, 9:45; Thurs., 8:30

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1325 Route 206, Montgomery Shopping Center
Friday, January 2 – Thursday, January 8
Slumdog Millionaire (R) Fri.-Sat., 1:50, 3:25, 4:30, 6:10, 7:10, 9:50; Sun.-Thurs., 1:50, 3:25, 4:30, 6:10, 7:10
Milk (R) Fri.-Sat., 1:40, 4:25, 7:10, 8:55, 9:55; Sun.-Thurs., 1:40, 4:25, 7:10
Valkyrie (PG13) Fri.-Sat., 1:55, 4:35, 7:15, 9:55; Sun.-Thurs., 1:55, 4:35, 7:15
Doubt (PG13) Fri.-Sat., 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45; Sun.-Thurs., 2:30, 4:55, 7:20
The Reader (R) Fri.-Sat., 1:45, 4:25, 7:05, 9:45; Sun.-Thurs., 1:45, 4:25, 7:05

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Music

Mei-Ann Chen

Paul Moravec

Princeton Symphony and Arts Council Offering Forum on New Music Creation

In a program hosted jointly by the Arts Council of Princeton, the Princeton Symphony Orchestra will present "Behind the Music," a panel discussion to explore how new music is created, on Saturday, January 17 from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Paul Robeson Center.

The event will feature a preview of a new Clarinet Concerto by Pulitzer Prize-winning composer and Princeton resident Paul Moravec.

"Behind the Music" panelists, including Mr. Moravec, PSO guest conductor Mei-Ann Chen, and clarinet soloist David Krakauer, will discuss the process of commissioning new music, the inspirations for Mr. Moravec's concerto, its themes and structure, performance challenges, and early response to the composition. Excerpts will be performed. The panel discussion will be followed by a wine and cheese reception for the artists and audience.

Commissioned by the Princeton Symphony Orchestra, Mr. Moravec's concerto will have its first full performance the following day at 4 p.m. during PSO's January 18 classical series concert at Richardson Auditorium. Mr. Krakauer will be the clarinet soloist with the PSO under the direction of Ms. Chen. In May, more PSO performances of the Moravec concerto will be featured in five *BRAVO!* concerts performed for 5000 local school children in central New Jersey.

Admission to "Behind the Music" is free, by reservation. For reservations, e-mail the PSO at info@princetonsymphony.org or call (609) 497-0020.

Mr. Moravec, winner of the 2004 Pulitzer Prize in Music, has composed more than 90 orchestral, chamber, choral, lyric, film, and electro-acoustic compositions. For the 2007-08 season, he was the Artist-in-Residence with the Institute for Advanced Study while continuing his tenure as University Professor at Adelphi University. Among his numerous awards are the Rome Prize Fellowship from the American Academy in Rome, a Fellowship in Music Composition from the National Endowment for the Arts, a Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship, a Camargo Foundation Residency Fellowship, and two fellowships from the American Academy of Arts & Letters. A graduate of Harvard University and Columbia University, he has taught at Harvard, Columbia, Dartmouth, and Hunter College, as well as Adelphi University.

In 2005, Ms. Chen became the first woman to win the prestigious international Nicolai Malko Competition for Conductors in its 40-year history. Her international career was launched through impressive debuts with orchestras in Scandinavia, Taiwan, and the U.S. During the 2008-09 season she received invitations to appear with the Lexington Philharmonic, Honolulu Symphony, and Princeton Symphony, while maintaining a guest conducting schedule with the National Symphony at the Kennedy Center, Taiwan National Symphony, Norwegian Radio Orchestra, and Norrlands Opera in Sweden. Most recently, she was named winner of the Taki Concordia Fellowship.

Mr. Krakauer is known for his mastery of myriad styles including classical chamber music, Eastern European Jewish klezmer music, and avant-garde improvisation. His recent collaborations have included appearances with the Tokyo String Quartet, Kronos Quartet, Lark Quartet, Orquesta Sinfonica de Barcelona, and the Brooklyn Philharmonic Orchestra. He had an eight-year tenure with the Naumburg Award-winning Aspen Wind Quintet, and has also enjoyed enduring relationships with such summer festivals as the Marlboro Music Festival, Norfolk Chamber Music Festival, and Aspen Music Festival.

PSO presents its five-concert classical subscription series and its Pops series at Richardson Auditorium during a September through May season. For complete season information, visit www.princetonsymphony.org.

For tickets, which are $64, $50, $36, and $16, call the PSO at (609) 497-0020 or Richardson Auditorium at (609) 258-5000.

Folk Music Society To Hear Bruce Molsky

The Princeton Folk Music Society will host a performance by traditional folk musician Bruce Molsky at 8:15 p.m. on Friday, January 16, at Christ Congregation Church, 50 Walnut Lane.

Although Mr. Molsky is most identified with traditional American music, his influences range from the Appalachian soul of Tommy Jarrell to Delta blues. He distinguishes himself by the use of the violin to accompany his country vocals. He also accompanies himself on guitar and banjo.

Mr. Molsky has performed throughout North America, Europe, the British Isles, Australia, and Japan, and has just returned from a concert tour of Sweden and Finland. In the U.S. he has performed at Lincoln Center and the Smithsonian Folk-Life Festival. He has also been heard on National Public Radio's "All Things Considered" and "A Prairie Home Companion." He has recorded six solo albums and collaborated on others with such folk artists as Mick Moloney, Tony Trischka, Aly Bain, Cathy Fink, Marcy Marxer, and former Princetonian Bob Carlin. His recording "Poor Man's Troubles" won an AFIM "Indie" award for the year's best traditional folk music recording.

Admission will be $15 for the public, $10 for members of the Folk Music Society and affiliated organizations, and $3 for children age 11 and under. There are no advance sales.

The next Folk Music Society event will be a performance by singer-songwriter Anne Hills on February 20. For more information about these and other Folk Music Society events, call (609) 799-0944 or visit http://princetonfolk.org.

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Art of the Guitar Series Coming to Public Library

A series of events celebrating the art of the guitar will begin on Sunday, January 18 at 3 p.m. at the Princeton Public Library. The three-week program will feature concerts by guitarists in different styles of music, information sessions, Rock Band and Guitar Hero tournaments, a film screening, and a Guitar Summit for enthusiasts to meet and mingle with the performers.

The series will begin with a performance by Virago, a New Jersey-based guitar/drumming duo that mixes Latin, rock, and blues. The audience will be encouraged to participate at Virago's performance. "We love it when people from the audience join us and take a chance," said drummer Maire Tashjian, who plays a pair of congas and a Brazilian drum. Partner Amy Schindler plays acoustic electric guitar for the pair's selections, which range from covers to Spanish ballads.

The series will continue on Wednesday, January 21 at 7:30 p.m. with folk songwriter Arlon Bennett, and on Thursday, January 22 at 7:30 p.m. with classical guitarist Stanley Alexandrowicz. Vintage guitar expert Ken Lelen will present a program on Sunday, January 25 at 3 p.m., providing information about his collection of instruments as he performs.

The Rock Band and Guitar Hero Jam on Friday, February 6, starting at 5 p.m., will be for contestants of all ages and skill levels. The Rock Band contest is for bands of four players, while the Guitar Hero event is for single players. Music will be from the 1960s to the present, and prizes will be awarded at the end of the night.

The series will culminate with the Guitar Summit on Monday, February 9 at 7:30 p.m. Area guitarists will gather to meet each other and learn from local instructors, each of whom will give a short demonstration of a favorite technique. The evening will end with an open mic session for all participants.

In conjunction with the festival, the library will screen the film *Les Paul: Chasing Sound* on Thursday, January 15 at 7 p.m. The guitarist and inventor tells his own story in the movie, which includes interviews with B.B. King, Bonnie Raitt, Tony Bennett, Jeff Beck, Merle Haggard, Steve Miller, and others.

The programs are all free and open to the public.

For more information about library programs and services, call (609) 924-9529 or visit www.princetonlibrary.org.

West Windsor Orchestra Performing This Saturday

The new West Windsor symphony orchestra Sinfonietta Nova will welcome the new year with the second concert of its inaugural season this Saturday, January 3 at 7:30 p.m. at the Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Princeton Junction.

Under the baton of artistic director and conductor Gail H. Lee, the orchestra will perform a program of Viennese music including selections from the opera *Die Fledermaus* by Johann Strauss Jr. and other waltzes and polkas by various members of the Strauss family.

Soloists will include sopranos Li-Chan Chen-Maxham, Anne Fuchs, and Makeda Hampton; mezzo-soprano Elizabeth Bouk; tenors Aaron Blankfield and Benjamin Berman; and baritone John Maxham.

Tickets, available at the door, will be $15 for general admission or $12 for students and seniors. Children under 12 are free.

For more information, call (609) 918-1205 or visit www.sinfoniettanova.org.

The Prince of Peace Lutheran Church is located at 177 Princeton-Hightstown Road in Princeton Junction.

Boy Singers Sought By Princeton Festival

On Saturday, January 17, The Princeton Festival will audition boys with treble and alto voices for the all-boy chorus in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Benjamin Britten's opera based on the Shakespeare play. Singers will be selected for four solo roles — Cobweb, Mustardseed, Moth, and Peaseblossom—as well as for the chorus.

The boys' chorus plays a key role in Britten's opera, from the opening ensemble of Tytania's attendants to the final scene with Oberon and Tytania. The Princeton Festival will perform *A Midsummer Night's Dream* twice, on Saturday, June 20 at 8 p.m. and on Sunday, June 28 at 3 p.m. at McCarter Theatre.

Interested candidates are invited to call (609) 537-0071 or e-mail chorus@princetonfestival.org to make an appointment. The Festival's Artistic Director, Richard Tang Yuk, will audition candidates between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. on January 17. A piano accompanist will be provided. Each candidate is asked to bring one piece of music that demonstrates his ability to sing above the staff (if a treble) or in the middle to lower staff (if an alto), as well as a reference from his music teacher or choir director.

The Princeton Festival season will run from Saturday, June 13 through Sunday, June 28 with the theme "Midsummer Magic." In addition to *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, the Festival will present chamber music, jazz, a choral workshop and concert, a piano competition, and performances of the musical *The Fantasticks*.

For more information, visit www.princetonfestival.org.

BACK FROM AUSTRIA: The Stuart Country Day School's TartanTones have recently returned from a Thanksgiving week tour of Austria, where they performed in Bregenz, Salzburg, and Vienna, and, shortly after this photo was taken in Melk, Austria, in an Advent concert at the Melk Abbey. The tour was part of a music exchange program with two other Sacred Heart schools in Austria. The Stuart vocal ensemble also appeared on national television in the U.S. with a December 20 appearance on the CBS *Early Show*. Prior to their departure to Austria, the TartanTones saw the release of their second collaborative Christmas album, "A Princeton Christmas: For the Children of Africa, Vol. II."

Special Event Resource Guide

to be published

January 28 & February 4

The issues will feature articles on many aspects of event planning.

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GRIMM FUN: The Royal Family in the Yardley Players production of "Rumplestiltskin" will include, from left, Paul McGlew as the Prince, Amy Slothower as Lady Matilda, Dan Slothower as Prime Minister, Marge Swider as Queen, and Jason Wilks as the Jester. The show will play at Mercer County Community College's Kelsey Theatre January 23 to 25. For tickets, call (609) 570-3333 or visit www.kelseytheatre.net.

Kelsey Theatre to Offer Musical "Rumplestiltskin"

The Yardley Players will present a new spin on the Brothers Grimm's fairytale *Rumplestiltskin* at Mercer County Community College's Kelsey Theatre in January. Dates and show times for the children's show are Friday, January 23 at 7 p.m., Saturday, January 24 at 2 and 4 p.m., and Sunday, January 25 at 2 and 4 p.m.

In the Yardley Players' adaptation, written by Vera Marris, Arne Christiansen, and Ole Kitteson, audiences will visit a kingdom in disarray, in which the townspeople live in fear of a witch who lives in the woods. Tension builds as the Queen tries to save her subjects and herself from bankruptcy. When a young girl named Laura claims to spin gold from straw, news quickly travels throughout the kingdom. As Laura struggles to fulfill her promises and win the affection of Prince Tam, Rumplestiltskin enters the picture with a secret plan of his own. The show features many comical characters, whimsical songs, and a fairytale conclusion. It will be directed by Laurie Gougher of Newtown, Pa.

Starring in *Rumplestiltskin* are Matthew Blazejewski of Trenton as Rumplestiltskin, Rob Gougher of Newtown, Pa., as the Huntsman, Grace Klinges of Princeton as Laura, Paul McGlew of Robbinsville as Prince Tom, Claire Norden of Newtown, Pa., as Charlotte, Amy Slothower of Plainsboro as Lady Matilda, Dan Slothower of Plainsboro as Prime Minister, Danielle Standifer of Hamilton as Katherine, Marge Swider of Langhorne, Pa., as the Queen, Jason Wilks of Princeton Junction as the Jester, and MaryAnn Wylie of Morrisville, Pa., as Griselda.

The cast will also include Dana Klinges and Simon Hamilton of Princeton, Mike Dilorio and Kavya Pochiraju of West Windsor, Fiona Meagher of Lawrenceville, Caroline Purdy of Cranbury, and Robin Slothower of Plainsboro. Tickets are $8 for children, students, and senior citizens, and $10 for adults. To order, visit www.kelseytheatre.net or call the Kelsey Theatre Box Office at (609) 570-3333.

Aerialists and Musicians Due in "Jungle Fantasy"

An international cast of 25 aerialists, contortionists, acrobats, jugglers, and musicians will bring the Broadway hit *Cirque Dreams Jungle Fantasy* to New Brunswick's State Theatre for two performances, on Wednesday, January 7 at 8 p.m. and Thursday, January 8 at 8 p.m.

The groundbreaking theatrical, acrobatic, and musical adventure has been called "the grandest circus spectacle east of Vegas" by New York Magazine. It made its Broadway debut in June 2008, becoming the first of its kind ever to perform on Broadway.

Created and directed by Neil Goldberg, *Cirque Dreams Jungle Fantasy* features an aerial ballet of butterflies, balancing giraffes, and gigantic flowers and trees, enhanced by more than 150 costumes and striking visual effects in a fantasy jungle setting. The show is the latest from Mr. Goldberg's Cirque Productions, creators of the touring shows *Cirque Ingenieux*, *Cirque Dreams Pandemonia*, *Cirque Dreams Coobrila*, *Cirque Dreams Illumination*, and *Cirque Dreams Holidaze*.

"*Cirque Dreams Jungle Fantasy* remains true to my original vision which began with the company in 1993: to blend European artistry with circus and Broadway theatrics in a dramatic fashion that transcends imagination, leaves its narration to the eyes of the beholder, and offers something for everyone," said Mr. Goldberg.

The New York Daily News called the show "colorful, imaginative and expertly performed...a fantasy worth indulging." The Associated Press recommended it as "a family friendly, mind-bending spectacle."

Tickets range from $25 to $55, with group, student, and senior discounts available. To order, call the State Theatre ticket office at (732) 246-7469, or visit www.StateTheatreNJ.org.

The State Theatre is located at 15 Livingston Avenue, New Brunswick.

Poet Meets Playwright In Lewis Center Drama

Princeton University senior Lauren Whitehead will present her senior creative thesis production for the Lewis Center for the Arts' Program in Theater and Dance at the Matthews Acting Studio January 9 through January 11.

Titled *The Beat is Sweet: Memory of a Braken Dream*, the production features theater, music, and dance in an imagined encounter between Langston Hughes, the Harlem Renaissance poet, and Spanish poet and playwright Federico Garcia Lorca.

Although it is not known whether Hughes and Lorca ever met, the fact that Hughes translated Lorca's *Bload Wedding* inspired Ms. Whitehead to create *The Beot is Sweet*. The play consists of a series of dreams and nightmares contrasted with flashes of reality based on the known events of the two writers' lives. "I want the audience to leave with a deeper understanding of the inner mind of the writer's eye, mysterious and chaotic, and a greater appreciation of the personal story that is the work they leave behind," said Ms. Whitehead. "I want people to listen to the message behind the music, not just the beautiful melody of the poetry, essays and plays that enchant us. The beat is sweet, but the story is timeless."

Ms. Whitehead, who is pursuing certificates in Theater and Dance, Near Eastern Studies, and Latin American Studies while concentrating in Spanish and Portuguese, has worked as an actor, director, dancer, and stage manager for shows with the Lewis Center for the Arts, Princeton Shakespeare Company, Naacho, and the Black Arts Company: Drama.

Performances of *The Beat is Sweet* will be Friday and Saturday, January 9 and 10 at 7 and 10 p.m., and Sunday, January 11 at 3 p.m.

Tickets are $10 for the public, $8 for students. For advance tickets, call University Ticketing at (609) 258-9220.

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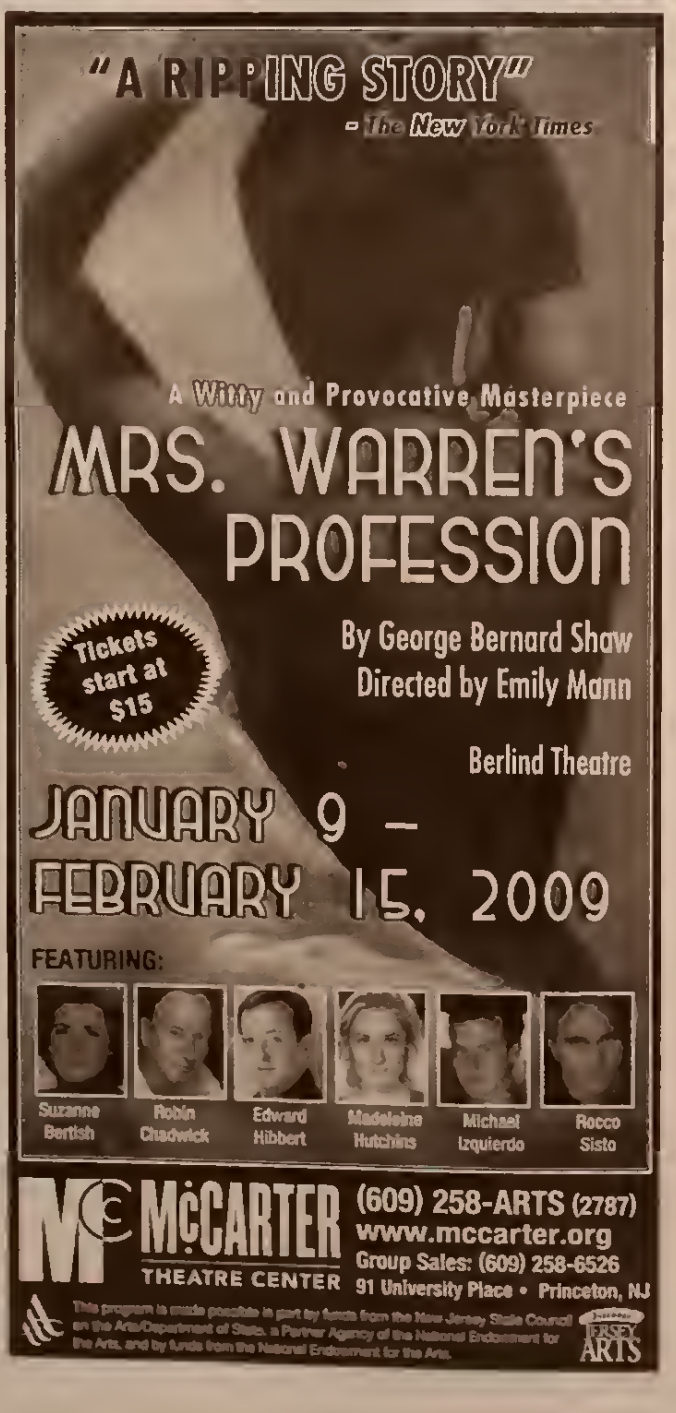

Tiger Athletes Made National Impact in 2008 While Traditional High School Powers Thrived

When it came to Princeton University athletics in 2008, things were spiced up by teams who made their presence felt nationally.

The Tiger women's squash team won its second straight Howe Cup national championship while the men's hockey team ended the season in the Top 20 after winning the ECAC Hockey title and the women's swimming team was ranked No. 18 nationally.

In the spring, the Princeton women's lacrosse team advanced to the national quarterfinals while the men's lightweight crew took fourth at the Intercollegiate Rowing Association (IRA) national championship regatta.

Two women's teams ended the fall in the Top 5 as the field hockey team made it to the NCAA quarters and finished fifth in the final national poll while the cross country team placed fifth at the NCAA championship meet.

Princeton athletes also graced the international stage as Caroline Lind '06 helped the U.S. women's eight to a gold medal in the Beijing Summer Olympics while classmate Steven Coppola rowed for the U.S. men's eight that took bronze.

On the high school scene, several traditionally strong programs were dominant once again.

The Princeton High boys' golf team won its second straight Group III state title while the Little Tiger girls swimming, girls' tennis, and boys' tennis team each won sectional titles. The PHS boys' soccer team won a second straight Mercer County Tournament title.

The Princeton Day School boys' tennis team and Stuart Country Day girls' lacrosse team each won their fourth straight state Prep B title while the Hun School baseball team repeated as state Prep A champions.

Other perennial powers fell just short of state titles, including the Hun girls' basketball and softball teams, the PDS boys' hockey program, and the Stuart field hockey squad.

There were also some memorable upstarts as the PDS girls' soccer team came out of nowhere to win the state Prep B title and the PHS boys' basketball team made the state playoffs for the first time since 2001.

Winter Wonders

When the Princeton University men's hockey team got routed 6-1 by Minnesota State in late December to fall to 5-8, it didn't look like the head coach Guy Gadowsky's Tigers were on track to continue the progress that had seen them advance to the ECAC Hockey quarterlinals in 2006-07.

But sparked by the leadership and heroic play of senior captain and defenseman Mike Moore, the Tigers righted the ship in a big way. Propelled by home sweeps of Harvard and Dartmouth and later Colgate and Cornell, Princeton worked its way up the ECACH standings.

With the line of Cam MacIntyre, Brett Wilson, and Lee Jubinville posting big offensive numbers and junior goalie Zane Kalemba emerging as one of the top tenders in the nation, Princeton won 14 of 19 games on its way to the ECACH Final Four in Albany.

Kalemba turned out to be the story of championship weekend, leading Princeton to a 3-0 win over Colgate in the semis and then coming up big a night later as Princeton stifled Harvard 4-1 in the championship game to win the program's first ECACH crown since the 1997-98 season.

Princeton's magical season ended with a 5-1 loss to North Dakota in the first round of the NCAA tournament. The Tigers went down fighting, outshooting the Fighting Sioux 39-18 and displaying the free-wheeling style that fueled their rise into the nation's Top 20.

The Tigers ended the season at 21-14, setting a program record for most wins in a season. Moore was named as a first-team All-American and the top defenseman in the ECACH while junior forward Jubinville also earned first-team All-American recognition and was chosen as the ECACH Player of the Year.

The Princeton women's hockey team also fired up the Baker Rink fans with some gritty play. Head coach Jeff Kampersal's club finished the season at 14-12-6, falling to Clarkson in an opening round ECACH playoff series.

The Tigers' tough defense was recognized as junior defender Katherine Dineen was named as the ECACH's top defensive defenseman while freshman defenseman Sasha Sherry was named to the league's All-Rookie team and as a second-team All-ECAC performer. Junior goalie Kristen Young developed into a star in her own right, earning All-Ivy League honorable mention and getting voted as the team's MVP.

In 2006-07, the Princeton women's squash team produced a perfect 11-0 season on the way to the Howe Cup national collegiate team title. Last winter, the Tigers stumbled in the regular season, dropping matches to Penn and Trinity.

But when it counted most, head coach Gail Ramsay's team produced another perfect ending, topping Yale in the national semis and then toppling No. 1 Penn in the championship match to earn a second straight national title.

Princeton native and senior tri-captain Carly Grabowsky provided one of the wins in the national championship match with co-captain Casey Riley and sophomore Neha Kumar and Emery Maine also picking up key victories in the triumph over Penn.

The Princeton men's squash team also played for the national title but fell short in losing 8-1 to perennial champion Trinity. Junior star Mauricio Sanchez provided many highlights over the winter for the head coach Bob Callahan's squad as he was named the Ivy League Player of the Year.

In the pool, the Princeton women's swimming team continued its dominance of the Ivy League, winning its third straight league crown. The 18th-ranked Tigers finished more than 150 points better than runner-up Harvard in winning the program's 18th league title and the 13th in the tenure of head coach Susan Teeter.

Sensational sophomore Alicia Aemisegger set the pace for the Tigers, getting named Ivy League Championships Swimmer of the Meet for the second straight year and earning All-American status in the 1,650 freestyle, 500 free, 400 individual medley and the 800 free relay.

Aemisegger was joined at the NCAA meet by six teammates, including seniors Lisa Hamming and Brett Shiflett, juniors Justina DiFazio and Monika Friedman, fellow sophomore Courtney Kilkuts, and freshman Meredith Monroe.

The Princeton men's swimming team fell just short of a title, finishing second to Harvard in the Eastern Intercollegiate Swimming League (EISL) meet.

Junior Doug Lennox put together a superb campaign for head coach Rob Orr's squad, earning All-American honors in the 200 butterlly and later competing for Puerto Rico in the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing.

On the hardwood, the Princeton men's basketball team found itself as far from a title as it could be, going 6-23 overall and 3-11 in Ivy League play, good for a tie for 6th and last with Dartmouth and Harvard.

Senior co-captain and Princeton native Noah Savage starred down the stretch, making second-team All-Ivy and providing some nice moments for first-year head coach Sydney Johnson.

The Princeton women's hoops program also welcomed a new coach as former Dartmouth standout Courtney Banghart took the

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DOUBLE TROUBLE: Holly McGarvie, left, races up the field in action last spring for the Princeton University women's lacrosse team. McGarvie was an All-Ivy league selection in both lacrosse and field hockey and helped both teams make the NCAA quarterfinals. (Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)

MOORE ACCOMPLISHMENT: Princeton University men's hockey star Mike Moore, right, races up the ice in action last season. Moore's leadership and bruising play helped the Tigers win ECAC Hockey title in 2007-2008. Moore was named as a first-team All-American and the top defenseman in the ECACH. (Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)

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Year in Review

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helm for the Tigers. Like the men's team, Princeton struggled as it adapted to its new mentor, posting an overall record of 7-23 and 4-10 in Ivy play.

Senior standout Meg Cowher ended her glittering career in style, averaging 17.7 points a game to win the league scoring title and earn a spot on the first-team All-Ivy squad for a third straight season. Cowher's career total of 1,671 points left her second on the program's all-time list behind only Sandi Bittler and the 1,683 points she accumulated.

Another program making its home in Jadwin Gym did come up big as the Princeton women's track team won the Indoor Ivy league Heptagonal meet for the first time since 1998. Head coach Peter Farrell's team piled up 114 points at the meet to edge runner-up Brown which had 107.

Standouts for the Tigers included distance runners Liz Costello and Sarah Cummings together with shot putter Isabell van Loga, sprinter Agatha Offorjebe, hurdler Lauren Barber, and pole vaulter Jess Kloss.

The Tiger men's track team, meanwhile, took second in the Indoor Heps, trailing only Cornell. Head coach Fred Samara got good performances from distance runner Michael Maag, high jumper Justin Frick, middle distance runner Mike Eddy, and multi-event specialist Duane Hynes

Spring Stumbles

Even though the Princeton University softball team started the spring by going 3-17, first-year head coach Trina Salcido wasn't flustered.

With her team having lost seven of those games by one run and a lineup packed with powerful hitters, Salcido figured her Tigers would eventually get rolling.

Once in Ivy League play, the Tigers turned into a juggernaut, going 14-0 to start the league campaign.

Princeton's power made the difference as Princeton outlasted Cornell to win the Ivy South crown. In a decisive doubleheader on the last Sunday of the regular season, the Tigers pounded out six homers at its Class of 1895 Field to rally to 6-5 and 12-11 wins.

Sophomore Jamie Lettire was the star of the day as she had the go-ahead home run in game one and the game-winning blast in game two. Senior Kat Welch also provided a lot of punch as she slugged a total of three homers on the afternoon.

A week later, Princeton rode the pitching of Lettire and senior ace Kristen Schaus it swept Harvard 4-2 and 5-1 to win the best-of-three Ivy championship series.

Princeton would end the season by falling to Massachusetts 6-0 and Lehigh 7-4 in the NCAA Amherst Regional. While the Tigers had hoped for a better final weekend, they were comforted by an Ivy title and a final record of 25-24, two accomplishments which seemed highly unlikely in early April.

Boasting a solid trio of starting pitchers in Stephen Miller, Christian Staehely, and Brad Gemberling, the Princeton baseball team was a strong contender for an NCAA berth.

But head coach Scott Bradley's team could never find a rhythm offensively as it produced an up-and-down campaign that saw the Tigers post an overall 20-22 record and an 11-9 mark in Ivy play,good for second in the Gehrig Division.

Princeton senior star third baseman Spencer Lucian and powerful sophomore catcher Jack Murphy provided most of the offense as they hit .425 and .391, respectively, on the way to earning first-team All-Ivy status.

Like the baseball team, the Princeton men's lacrosse team was plagued by inconsistency. Head coach Bill Tierney's team showed flashes of brilliance in wins over Hofstra, Cornell, and Harvard.

The Tigers showed offensive flair in dispatching NCAA tournament-bound Hofstra and Cornell while producing a dramatic comeback against Harvard in rallying from a late two-goal deficit to pull out an overtime triumph.

But in the last two weekends of the season, Princeton came up short in tight losses to Dartmouth and Brown to finish 7-6 overall and 4-2 in Ivy play.

The Tigers missed out on the.NCAA tourney for just the second time in the last 19 years. Bruising senior defenseman Dan Cocoziello did receive national acclaim as he garnered first-team All-American honors to go with his unanimous selection as a first-team All-Ivy performer.

Led by a group of decorated junior performers that featured Holly McGarvie, Molly McKenna, Christine Casaceli, and Katie Cox, the Princeton women's lacrosse team did make it to the NCAA tournament for the 11th straight season.

Head coach Chris Sailer's team topped Vanderbilt 14-10 in the opening round of the national tournament before falling to eventual national champion Northwestern 18-11 in the national quarterfinals.

The Tigers ended the season at 13-5 overall and 5-2 in league play with both McGarvie and McKenna gaining first-team All-Ivy recognition.

In late May, head coach Sailer was notified of the greatest honor in the sport as she was chosen as a member of the National Lacrosse Hall of Fame. Sailer, who joins men's coach Tierney as a Hall of Famer, has complied a 282-96 record in her distinguished 22-year tenure which has featured national crowns in 1994, 2002, and 2003.

Over at Lake Carnegie, the Princeton crews were also in the national title hunt. Head coach Curtis Jordan's men's heavyweight boat took third at the eastern Sprints but faded to 12th in the Intercollegiate Rowing Association (IRA) national championship regatta.

The Tiger men's heavyweight program did have a special moment in August as Princeton alum Steve Coppola helped the U.S. men's eight capture bronze at the Beijing Summer Olympics.

The men's lightweight crew attained the No. 1 ranking in early May and proved to be a formidable competitor in championship competition. Head coach Greg Hughes' top boat took second at the Eastern Sprints and fourth in the IRA regatta.

For most of the spring, the Princeton women's lightweight crew held the No. 1 ranking as the boat put together an undefeated regular season. But head coach Paul Rassam's rowers fell just short in the postseason, placing second at the Eastern Sprints and taking fifth at the IRA.

With a boat featuring mainly underclassmen athletes, Princeton open crew head coach Lori Dauphiny knew she was in for a bumpy ride. The Tigers did show potential at the end of the spring as they took fourth in the Eastern Sprints, making Princeton one of the few programs to be included in every NCAA championship regatta since the inaugural event in 1997. Things, though, didn't go well for Princeton in the NCAAs as the top boat took 12th.

In the summer, however, the program took pride as one of its alums, Caroline Lind, helped the U.S. women's eight take the gold medal in the Beijing Summer Olympics.

At the track, the Princeton women's team had plenty of medal winners as head coach Peter Farrell's athletes placed a close second to Cornell in the Outdoor Ivy Heptagonal championships. Jolee Van Leuven won the 10,000 and Ashley Higginson took first in the 5,000 with Jess Kloss winning the pole vault and Isabell van Loga placing first in the shot put.

Throwers Eric Plummer and Alex Pessala together with distance runner David Nightingale and high jumper Justin Frick starred as head coach Fred Samara's Tiger track team also placed second to Cornell in the Outdoor Heps. Nightingale and Frick went on to qualify for the NCAA championship meet where Frick made the finals.

Fall Fun

The fall season for Princeton opened on a beautiful early September evening as the Tiger men's and women's soccer teams christened Roberts Stadium, the school's new state-of-the-art soccer facility.

The Tiger women's team stole the show that night, topping Boston University 2-1 in overtime with senior Sarah Peteraf scoring the game-tying goal in regulation.

That win was a harbinger of things to come as head coach Julie Shackford's side won one nailbiter after another with Peteraf providing a number of clutch goals.

The Tigers ended up sharing the Ivy title with Harvard, going 5-1-1 in league play. Making its first appearance in the NCAA tournament since its 2004 run to the Final Four, Princeton was on the wrong side of a tight one, falling to West Virginia 2-1 and ending the season at 12-3-2.

Peteraf ended the season with 12 goals after scoring a total of four in her first three years. Peteraf was named as a first-team All Ivy performer along with classmates Lisa Chinn, Taylor Numann and sophomore goalkeeper Aly Pont.

While the Princeton men's soccer team boasted such all Ivy performers as former Hun star Matt Care, former PDS

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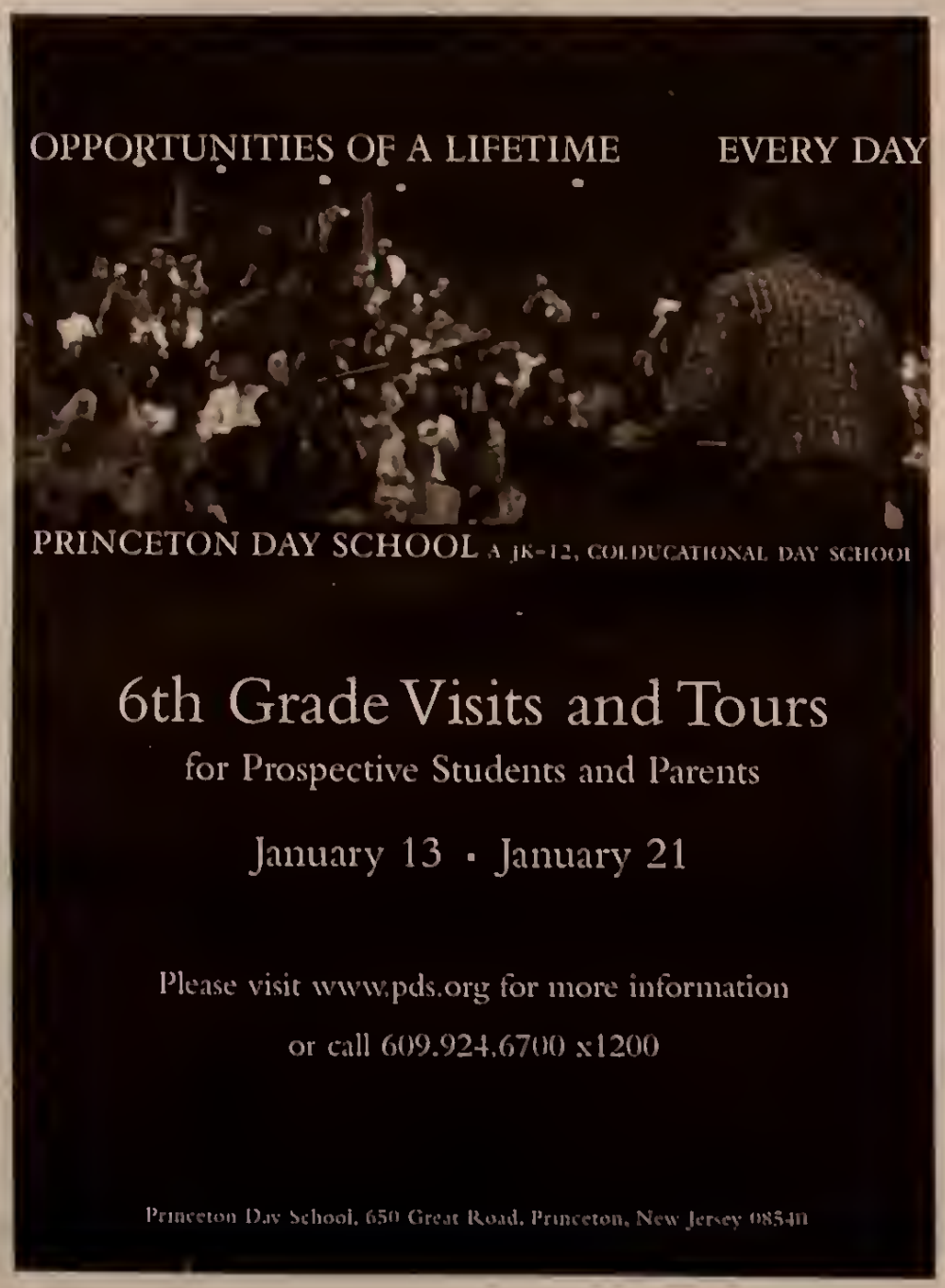
JORDAN RULES: Princeton University running back Jordan Culbreath races past a Dartmouth player in Princeton's 28-10 win over the Big Green in the season finale last fall. Culbreath made history that afternoon, galloping for 276 yards, the second-best single-game total in Princeton history behind only the 299 gained by Keith Elias against Lafayette in 1992. The junior running back gained 1,206 yards on the season to lead the Ivy League. *(Photo by Stephen Goldsmith)*

BIG STICK: Princeton University softball star Jamie Lettire takes a rip in action last spring. Lettire's power and pitching helped Princeton win the Ivy title as the team recovered from a 3-17 start. *(Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)*



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standout Antoine Hoopenot together with Devin Muntz and Ben Burton, the Tigers couldn't overcome a sluggish start.

Head coach Jim Barlow's team got out of the gate at 2-8-1 and looked like it was headed to a dismal season. But going 3-1-2 in its last six games, Princeton ended up at 5-9-3 overall and 2-2-3 in Ivy play, good for a fifth-place tie with Brown in the league standings.

Led by a core of seniors and two dazzling freshman, the Princeton University field hockey team ran the table in Ivy play, posting an unblemished 7-0 league mark.

Seniors Sarah Reinprecht, Holly McGarvie, and Kraftin Schreyer were first-team All-Ivy performers along with freshmen Katie Reinprecht and Kathleen Sharkey as head coach Kristen Holmes-Winn's team climbed into the top ten by the end of the regular season. The younger Reinprecht was the Ivy Player of the Year while Sharkey was voted as the league's top rookie.

In the NCAA regional play, the Tigers blanked Penn State 2-0 before falling to No. 3 and host Syracuse 3-2 in overtime in the national quarterfinals. The loss left the Tigers with a final record of 17-3. In the final national poll, Princeton was ranked fifth.

The Princeton University women's cross country team also finished in the top 5 in the nation as it took fifth in the NCAA championship meet. Junior star Liz Costello led the way for the Tigers, taking 11th in the individual standings with senior Megan Brandeland taking 42nd and freshman Alex Banfich coming in 49th.

Head coach Peter Farrell's team set the pace all fall long as it tied for first in the Mid-Atlantic Regional meet, took first in the Pre-National Meet, and placed second in the Notre Dame Invitational.

The team's most historic effort came at the Ivy League Heps championships on Halloween where the Tigers were scary good in winning their third straight team title. Led by first-pace finisher Costello, Princeton posted a championship best score of 17, taking first, second, third, fifth and sixth, topping the previous best by six points.

The Princeton men's cross country team also won its third straight Heps crown as it edged Columbia by three points. Senior Michael Maag finished in second place to pace head coach Steve Dolan's team.

Maag and freshman Brian Leung, a former WW/P-S standout, went on to qualify as individuals for the NCAA Championship meet where they finished 79th and 121st, respectively.

Junior running back Jordan Culbreath spent the fall running through and around foes for the Princeton football team. Culbreath saved his best for last, galloping for 276 yards in a 28-10 season-ending win over Dartmouth. It was the second-best single-game total in Princeton history behind only the 299 gained by Keith Elias against Lafayette in 1992.

Culbreath ended the season as the leading rusher in the Ivy League with 1,206 yards. Despite Culbreath's heroics, head coach Roger Hughes' team couldn't find a winning rhythm as it went 4-6 overall and 3-4 in Ivy play, good for fifth in the league standings.

The Princeton men's water polo team did come up with a major win as it edged Navy 12-11 on a late Eric Vreeland goal to win the Southern Championship. Head coach Luis Nicolao's team, though, fell 9-6 in a rematch with Navy in the finals of the Eastern Championships to end the season at 19-10.

Led by a core of seniors, the Princeton women's volleyball team fell just short of the Ivy League title, going 18-4 overall and 12-2 in league play. Unfortunately for head coach Glenn Nelson's team, Yale went 13-1 in Ivy play to take the league crown.

Seniors Lindsey Ensign and Parker Henritze were unanimously voted first-team All-Ivy selections while classmate Bailey Robinson was a second-team All-Ivy choice.

CENTURY CITY: Stuart Country Day field hockey star Jackie Gaudioso-Radvany prepares to fire the ball at the cage. The North Carolina bound Gaudioso-Radvany scored 30 goals and had 17 assists this fall for the 18-6 Tartans. In the process, she became the first player in county history with 100 career goals. (Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)

HOLDING SERVE: Princeton Day School boys' tennis star David Holland readies himself for a big serve. Holland, now at Duke, led PDS to its fourth straight Prep B team title this spring. Holland won four Prep B titles and three county titles at first singles.

Hun School

It was a season of near misses for the Hun School's winter teams. On the hardwood, the Hun boys' basketball team laced its usual complement of high-powered foes. While head coach Jon Stone's Raiders held their own, they lost in the semifinals of both the state Prep A and Mid-Atlantic Prep League (MAPL) tournaments on the way to a 13-12 season.

A trio of senior standouts, Lance Goulbourne, Sterling Melville, and Doug Davis performed valiantly all winter long for the Raiders. The trio has taken their skills to the next level, with Goulbourne at Vanderbilt, Melville at Colgate, and Davis across town at Princeton, where he is the Tigers' leading scorer.

The Hun girls' program produced another strong season, going 19-8. But head coach Bill Holup's squad succumbed to its Peddie curse, once again falling to the Falcons in the state Prep A and MAPL title games.

Senior forward Emily Gratch ended her career in style, averaging 17.0 points a game. Gratch, who is currently playing at Lehigh, started all four years at Hun and totaled 1,585 career points, second best in program history behind Courtney Tierney.

On the ice, the Hun boys' hockey team went through a midseason slump as it fell to 4-7 at one point. But head coach Francois Bourbeau's team produced a late surge, advancing to the semifinals of both the Mercer County Tournament and state Prep A tourney.

Junior netminder Travis Potts was the team's backbone, keeping the Raiders close in many a contest as the squad finished with a 10-12 record.

Coming into the spring, longtime Hun baseball head coach Bill McQuade wasn't sure his team had the firepower to repeat as the state Prep A champions. McQuade's fears seemed justified as the Raiders lost eight of nine games after starting 7-0.

Riding the superb mound-work of senior stars Mike Russo and David Putman, Hun caught fire when it counted, rolling to a second straight Prep A championship, routing Peddie 10-1 in the title clinching game. The Raiders ended with a record of 13-8 as McQuade savored the first back-to-back titles in his 38 seasons guiding the Raiders.

The Hun softball got off to a sluggish start, going 4-4 in its first eight games. But with the bats coming alive and sophomore Meghan Hayes developing into an ace, the Raiders made a late-season run.

Head coach Kathy Quirk's squad won eight in a row to advance to the state Prep A title game where they succumbed to powerful Peddie. Cornell-bound Morgan Cawley was a steadying influence for the Raiders, fielding superbly at shortstop and providing numerous clutch hits including a game-winning homer in a regular season win over Peddie.

The Hun boys' lacrosse team produced another solid campaign, going 11-9 and falling to Peddie in overtime in the state Prep A semifinals. Junior attacker Zach Martin was a revelation for head coach Greg Provenzano's squad, scoring 97 points in earning first-team All-Bianchi Division and first-team All-MAPL honors.

As for the Hun girls' lax team, longtime boys' hoops coach Stone took the helm for Lauren Provenzano and proved to be a quick study.

Instilling a free-wheeling offense, Stone guided the Raiders to a 12-5 season as they advanced to the MCT semis and the Prep A quarters. A trio of senior standouts. Sarah Appelt, Bridget Stinson, and Melissa Marino, triggered the team's superb campaign.

Senior star Goulbourne proved that he had talents on another court as well, winning the state Prep A title at first singles, providing a major highlight for head coach Joan Nuse's boys' tennis squad.

The injury bug hit the Hun football team in preseason practice when DeOliver Davis suffered a season-ending broken leg. Coming off of a 9-0 campaign when everything fell in place, it was a Murphy's Law fall for Hun when it came to injuries.

At various points during the season, Raider head coach David Dudeck was without the services of Chris Alston, Nolan MacMillan, Anthony LaLota, Eli Tenuda, Nick Williams, Brian Leffler, and Tyler Stockton.

Predictably, Hun struggled, ending the season with a disappointing 4-4 mark. Dudeck's son, junior quarterback Brendan, emerged as a proficient player for the Raiders, passing for 1,023 yards and rushing for 131 yards and two touchdowns.

Getting off to 3-6 start, the Hun field hockey team looked like it was heading for a disappointing season itself. But with head coach Kathy Quirk emphasizing aggressive play around the cage and gifted senior attacker Addie Godfrey executing that strategy, the Raiders caught fire.

The Raiders put together a 5-0-2 stretch as they headed

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Year in Review

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into post-season play. Hun ended up advancing to the MCT semis, shocking top-seeded Robbinsville in the quarters. The Raiders also advanced to the state Prep semis as they ended up 9-8-2 on the season with Godfrey tallying eight goals and five assists to lead the team in both categories.

While it failed in its bid to win a seventh-straight MCT team title, the Hun girls' tennis team had a solid campaign. Head coach Joan Nuse's team went 10-3 and finished second in the team standings in the state Prep A tournament.

The Raiders were led by junior Kara Shoemaker at first singles while two international newcomers, Swedish native Beatrice Falk and Spaniard Natalia Arenales, starred at second and third singles, respectively.

The addition of post-graduate newcomer Arielle Collins, a former Steinert standout, gave the Raiders a lift. Collins scored a team-high 14 goals with Blake Stockton next with five as head coach Ken Stevenson's team went 6-7.

The Hun boys' soccer program welcomed a new head coach in Pat Quirk. While the Raiders got off to a spotty start as the players adjusted to Quirk and some heavy graduation losses, they grew into a formidable side.

Led by versatile senior Ryan Kreger, who started the season on defense but then became the team's top scoring threat from the midfield with seven goals, Hun advanced to the state Prep A semifinals. Although Hun dropped a 2-1 heartbreaker to perennial state Prep camp St. Benedict's and ended the fall at 8-10-2, the team's progress portends good things in the future.

Princeton Doy School

In past winters, the Princeton Day School ice hockey programs have garnered much of the attention.

But last winter, two new head coaches breathed life into the Panther basketball teams.

On the boys' side, former PDS star athlete Paris McLean took the helm and paid immediate dividends as his team roared out of the gate with a 9-0 start.

The hard-charging trio of Antoine Hoppenot, Joe Rogers, and Kenny Holzhammer proved to be a handful for foes all winter long.

While the Panthers stumbled a bit in mid-season, the team made a nice late run to advance to the state prep semifinals where they fell to second-seeded Collegiate. PDS did end up with a share of the Patriot Conference title and a 14-14 record, a major improvement on the 3-18 mark posted in 2006-07.

As for the girls, Jessica Katz moved up to the head coach spot from a previous role as assistant and injected a new spirit into her charges.

Led by senior guard Hannah Epstein and precocious freshman center Tiffany Patterson, the Panthers turned heads by posting wins over such Prep A foes as Blair and Lawrenceville.

PDS ended up advancing to the Prep A semis where it fell to Hun. That setback, though, couldn't diminish a winter of progress which saw the Panthers go 12-12, a big jump from the 6-15 record the team had the previous winter.

A pair of new co-head coaches, Kat Smithson and Gretchen Jaeckel, gave the PDS girls' hockey team a lift. With the program short on numbers and facing the possibility of not fielding a team, the two coaches attracted a bevy of newcomers to the sport.

With such veterans as Katherine Levinton, Noni Ammidon, Georgia Travers and Bryanna Mayes leading the way, the neophytes picked up the game quickly and the team became more and more competitive as the season went on. PDS ended the season at 9-11-1 and, more importantly, laid the foundation for future success.

Junior goalie Nick Jabs took the PDS boys' hockey team on his back, producing one superb effort after another as the Panthers held their own as they faced their usual highly competitive schedule.

With senior Clint O'Brien and junior standout John Inman providing much of the offense to go with Jabs' efforts in the net, head coach Scott Bertoli's Panthers advanced to the championship game in both the state Prep tournament and the Mercer County Tournament. While PDS came up short in both of those games, the team showed plenty of character in going 13-7-3 on the season.

Once spring rolled around, the PDS baseball team started rolling. Head coach Bruce Devlin's squad roared out of the gate to a 13-1 start.

With a powerful lineup paced by senior stars O'Brien, Mike Shimkin, and Mark Madden together with sophomore Jon Scott and a strong pitching staff anchored by sophomore Jim Fuhrman, the Panthers ran roughshod over most of their foes.

The Panthers, though, ended the season on a down note, falling in the quarterfinals of the MCT and state Prep B tournament. The team, which ended the spring with a 16-4 record, suffered another loss after the season as Devlin left the program and ended up as the offensive coordinator for the Notre Dame High football team.

Led by Duke-bound senior singles star David Holland, the PDS boys' tennis team was head and shoulders above most of its competition over the spring.

In the MCT, head coach Rome Campbell's Panthers took second in the team standings as Holland won at first singles with Neil Karandikar winning at second singles and Alvin Song taking the title at third singles.

PDS capped the season by edging Gil St. Bernard's by one point in the state Prep B tournament to win the program's fourth straight team title in that competition. Holland ended his career with a fourth straight Prep B title at first singles, going undefeated over his final three years of high school play.

The PDS girls' lax team made their presence felt in the MCT as they made it to the championship game for a second straight year.

Led by senior star Hannah Epstein, junior Cammie Linville and the Jenkins sisters, Mariel and Sydney, head coach Jill Thomas' team produced some memorable moments over the spring.

The Panthers topped WW/P-N and rival Stuart on the way to the MCT title game where they lost to Hopewell Valley for a second straight year. The Panthers ended the season at 11-7 and with hopes for a bright future as they only lost Epstein and two other seniors.

With such young guns as Iain Alexandridis, Aaron Shavel, Ian Crowell and Theo Casey, the PDS boys' lax team is also looking forward to the future. Head coach Rob Tuckman's team suffered some growing pains in 2008 as they went 4-12.

Under new head coach Bob Wilson, the PDS softball team showed growth as it went 7-8. Sophomore ace Jen Auerbach matured into a superb pitcher and should be the foundation for the Panthers in 2009.

Coming into the fall, PDS girls' soccer head coach Pat Trombetta thought his squad had promise. But with a lineup dominated by sophomores and freshmen, Trombetta figured that the team was a year away from being a title contender.

When the team started 4-3, those concerns seemed justified. But with freshman Janie Smukler emerging as one of the top scorers in the area and seniors Cammie Linville and Erin Cook providing skill and poise, the Panthers caught fire.

PDS ended up going 10-2-1 in its last 13 games, capping the run with a dramatic 2-1 overtime win against Montclair Kimberley Academy in the state Prep B title game. Defenseman Cook ended her career with a bang, scoring both PDS goals in the title game, converting long free kicks.

The PDS boys' soccer team also featured young stars in Robbie Smukler, Justin Ward, Paul Zetterberg, and Maxime Hoppenot but didn't experience the success of the girls' team. Head coach Malcolm Murphy's team went 7-12-1, dropping several nailbiters along the way.

IRON MIKE: Hun School baseball star Mike Russo fires a pitch in a game last spring. Russo's arm and bat helped the Raiders win their second straight state Prep A title in 2008.

(Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)

The Jenkins sisters, senior Mariel and sophomore Sydney, provided the bulk of the offense for the PDS field hockey team. Harvard-bound Mariel scored 10 goals while Sydney added nine. The rest of head coach Jill Thomas' team accumulated 14 as the Panthers couldn't quite get over the hump in a 7-11 campaign.

Hurt by a lack of depth, the PDS football team experienced in rough season in the debut campaign of new head coach Rick Mabes. The Panthers edged Morrisville (Pa.) 7-6 in its opener and never won again in going 1-7.

Princeton High

Taking over a boys' basketball program that had struggled and had gone 7-15 in 2006-07, Jason Carter figured to inject some competitive fire into his players.

Carter, a football, basketball, and lacrosse star at PHS who went on to play football and soccer at Rowan College, got his team rolling right from the start as it routed Lawrence 73-40 in its season opener.

With DeQuan Holman and Brian Dunlap starring in the backcourt and Skye Ettin and A.J. Dowers performing well in the paint, the Little Tigers were competitive all winter long.

PHS achieved one of Carter's major goals as it qualified for the state playoffs for the first time since 2001. Playing at No. 4 Monmouth in the Central Jersey sectionals, 13th-seeded PHS battled hard before succumbing 71-58. But the loss appeared to be a learning experience on the way to bigger and better things with Holman, Dunlap, Ettin, and Dowers all slated to return for 2008-09.

The PHS girls' hoops program also welcomed a new coach in Steff Shoop but continued to struggle. While Shoop's animated approach resonated with her players, PHS went 1-20.

On the ice, Tim Campbell took over as the head coach of the PHS boys' hockey team with the departure of longtime coach Paul Merrow who ended up at Hopewell Valley. With a roster depleted by graduation and hurt by subpar goaltending, PHS went 4-17.

But there was hope on the horizon with the improvement of such returning players as Jeff Goeke, Billy Ward, Fraser Graham, Peter Twining, and Dean DiTosto.

There was reason for hope for Jeff Schneider as he became the head coach of the PHS girls' hockey team. Featuring such productive players as Gabby Vukasin, Olivia Ray, Blair Thompson, Maddy Sturm, and Katie Carreno together with improving goalie Olivia Bayles, PHS went 10-11-1 and qualified for the semis of the WIHLMA (Women's Interscholastic Hockey League of the Mid-Atlantic).

With a quartet of senior stars in Kathleen Morrison, Jordan Shapiro, Liz Cava, and Paige Johnson, the PJHS girls' swimming team advanced to the Public B state semifinals.

Head coach Hand's team saved its best swimming for the Central Jersey sectional, posting impressive wins over Point Pleasant Beach and Ocean Township on the way to the title.

While the PHS seniors wanted to go further in the states, they ended the winter knowing they had given it their all to the end in the team's 11-4 campaign.

A pair of seniors, Tim Perkins and Brad Dewey, provided some impressive leadership for the PHS boys' swimming team. Anchoring a team that didn't have the

Continued on Next Page

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Year in Review

Continued from Preceding Page

depth of many of its foes, Perkins and Dewey led the Little Tigers to a 7-6 record and a spot in the sectional semifinals.

The spring season saw the PHS boys' tennis team dominate the headlines. Led by a quartet of battle-hardened seniors in Matt Ullmann, Ari Silver, Ben Weingarten, and David Zheng, the Little Tigers dropped just one match in regular season play.

In post-season action, head coach Sarah Heyman's team outlasted WW/P-N in the Central Jersey Group III sectional semifinal and then cruised past Ocean Township to take the sectional title.

In the Group III state semis, the Little Tigers gave powerful Millburn all it could handle before falling 3-2 to end the season with an 18-2 record.

Led by a triumvirate of senior stars in Curtis Smith, Jon Bichsel, and Will Madden, the PHS boys' golf team was frustrated as it placed second in the Mercer County Tournament and the Group III Central-South Jersey sectional.

But saving their best for last, head coach Sheryl Severance's Little Tigers came through in the Tournament of Champions, placing sixth overall and first among Group III teams to earn the program's second straight state title.

Riding a late-season surge that saw it go 5-2 in its last seven games, the PHS girls' lacrosse team ended up making it to the second round in both the MCT and state tournament.

Junior stars Liz Price and Mie Graham led the way as PHS finished 8-7 in what turned out to be her last campaign for longtime head coach Joyce, who stepped down after the season.

Going with a youth movement by necessity, the PHS boy's lacrosse program took its lumps. With senior attacker Brandon Polakoff sparking the offense and junior goalie Jeff Goeke holding the fort on defense, PHS put up some good fights as it learned some valuable lessons.

Head coach Peter Stanton's team went 4-10 and missed out on the state tournament for the first time in years.

With Goeke coming back along with such promising players as Mike Olentine, Michael Irving and the Bryant brothers, Allen and Doug, PHS hopes to get back on the winning track in 2009.

The PHS baseball team has a long way to go to get on the winning track as it posted a 1-22 season for head coach Scott Goldsmith.

Likewise, the PHS softball is in a rebuilding mode as it went 3-18 in head coach Craig Haywood's second campaign.

As for the PHS track teams, several individual athletes produced superb performances. Head coach John Woodside's boys' team was led by senior throwing star John McCormack who won the javelin as PHS finished 14th in the Group III sectionals.

The Little Tiger girls showed depth in the 400 hurdles where junior star Hannah Davis placed third and senior standout Olivia Johnston took sixth as PHS finished 11th in the team standing at the sectional meet. Other stars for head coach Jim Smirk's team included freshman Rebekka Vuojolainen who placed second in the triple jump at the sectional with senior star Megan Wiseman took fourth in the long jump.

Coming into the fall, it appeared that the PHS boys' soccer team may take a step backwards with the graduation of such stars as Kyle DeBlois, Ari Silver, Pablo Espichan, Diego Reinero, and Pete McInerney.

But with senior striker Sam Kotowski sparking the offense and classmates Nick Hughes, Corey Marsh, Will Slade and Chris Bechler, Jon Beissinger, and Anastacio Perez all making solid contributions, the Little Tigers didn't miss a beat.

Head coach Wayne Sutcliffe's team got out of the gate with an 8-0 start as Kotowski scored one game-winning goal after another. The Little Tigers stubbed their toe in the midseason, losing to WW/P-N and Steinert in one week.

But with the addition of sophomore transfer Paul Ehrenworth, PHS went on a roll that saw the program win its second straight MCT title. The Little Tigers outlasted WW/P-N in the semis in an overtime thriller and then blanked Pennington in the MCT title game as goalie Steve Hellstern led the way.

In the state tournament, PHS ran into nemesis WW/P-N in the sectional semifinals and came up on the short end of another overtime nailbiter, falling 2-1 to end the season at 17-4. Kotowski produced a season for the agers, amassing a school-record 31 goals with 14 of them game-winners.

The PHS football team fell just short of qualifying for the state playoffs. After getting routed by Nottingham on opening day, head coach Steve Everette's team reeled off five wins in a row and seemed headed to a second straight state tourney berth.

But the Little Tigers suffered tight losses to Hightstown and Notre Dame to fall out of contention for the tournament. A 38-18 loss to visiting Hamilton in an NJSIAA consolation contest left PHS at 5-5. But with a blue-chip junior class that includes Josh Gordon, Trevor Barsamian, Mike Olentine, Skye Ettin, and Brian Vieten, the Little Tigers should be in the state tournament hunt next fall.

Another team that didn't reach the state tournament was the PHS field hockey team which welcome new head coach Heather Serverson, who replaced longtime coach Joyce Jones. The Little Tigers won just two games on the fall as it worked a number of younger players into the lineup.

Over at the tennis court, a group of young players prospered as the PHS girls' tennis team enjoyed a fine season. Notwithstanding a lineup featuring two juniors, two sophomores, and three freshmen, head coach Sarah Heyman's Little Tigers piled up win after win over the fall.

The Little Tigers brought an 11-0 record into its Central Jersey Group III sectional semifinal match with Holmdel but ended up gaining some hard experience as they fell 5-0. PHS regrouped after that and finished the regular season with a sparkling 17-2 record.

Overcoming tragedy, the Princeton High girls' cross country team made an impact in state competition, taking third in the Central Jersey Group III sectional.

Earlier in the fall, the Little Tigers were devastated when sophomore runner Helene Cody died from a brain aneurism.

Head coach Jim Smirk and senior captains Molly Lynch and Mina Juhn showed leadership in holding the team together. Cody's younger sister, freshman star, Jenna, showed courage to go with her talent as she continued to set the pace for PHS as she dealt with the tragedy.

The Little Tigers ended the fall with a sixth-place finish in the state Group II meet.

Led by senior co-captains Chris Vasseur and Aaron Deutsch and emerging sophomore star Aaron Thomas, the PHS boys' cross country team also made strides. Head coach John Woodside's Little Tigers finished fifth in the county meet and placed sixth in the sectional meet.

Stuart Country Day

The addition of talented freshmen Amber Bowman and Jasmine Smarr helped the Stuart basketball team turn into one of the more entertaining teams in the area.

The two combine with dynamic sophomore guard Diamond Lewis to produce an up-tempo style that gave foes fits all winter long.

Lewis averaged 17.8 points a game while Bowman scored 13.4 and Smarr chipped in 9.6.

Head coach Tony Bowman's team advanced to the state Prep B semifinals and finished the winter with a 14-10 mark.

Once spring rolled around, junior stars Caroline Passano and Elizabeth Bucklee combined to form a potent one-two scoring punch for the Stuart lacrosse team.

With Passano scoring 103 points on 57 goals and 46 assists, and Bucklee firing in 82 goals, head coach Sara Wagner's team was able outgun just about every foe it faced.

The Tartans topped Pennington to win its fourth straight state Prep B title and ended up advancing the MCT semis and finishing the spring with a 13-5 record.

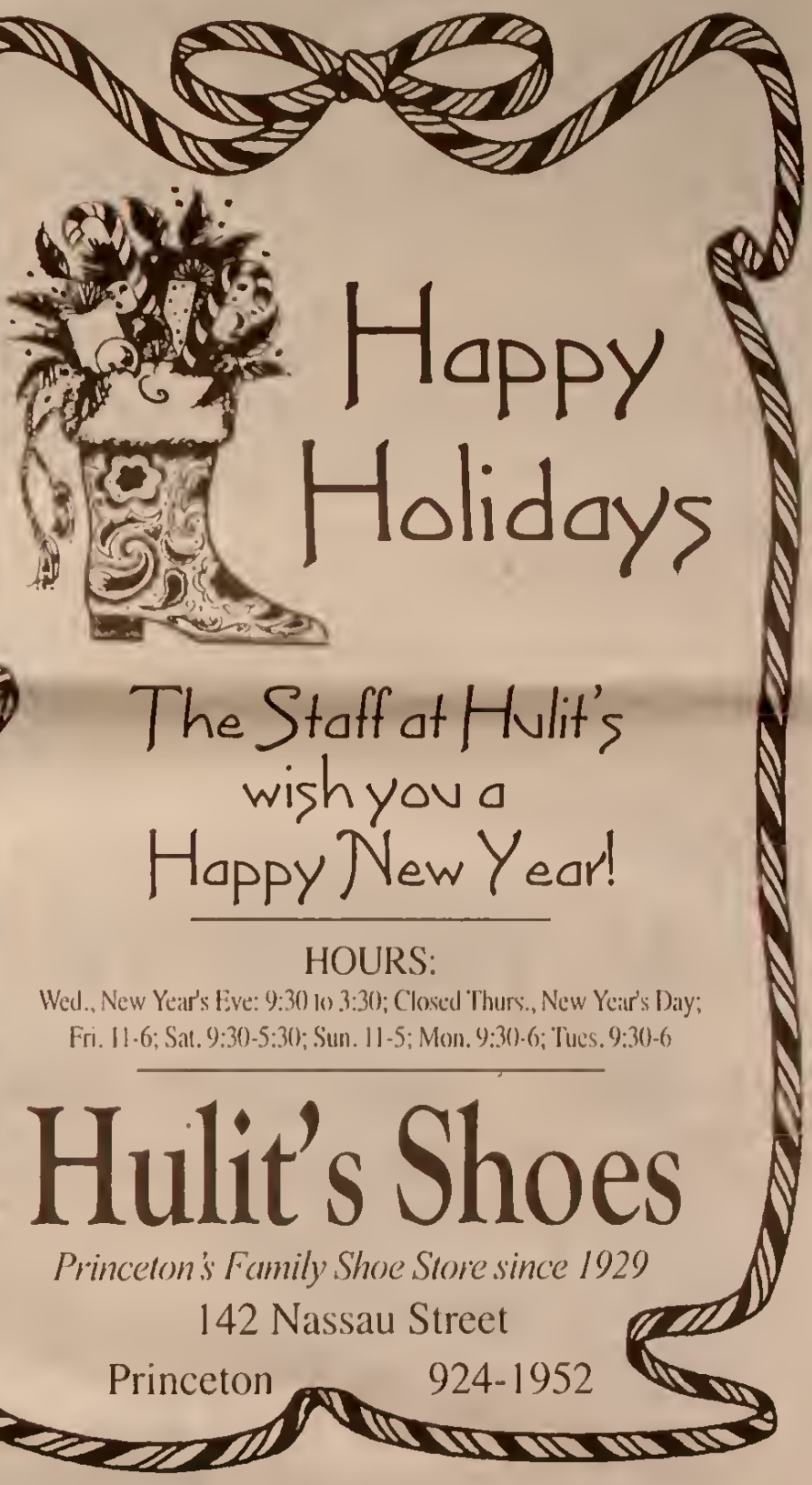
The Stuart track team placed second in the state Prep B championship meet. Diamond Lewis led the way for the Tartans, winning the 100-meter dash, the 200, and the 400. Alaina Gaines also came up big, winning the discus and shot put.

Senior star Jackie Gaudioso-Radvany entered the fall looking to go out with a bang for the Stuart field hockey team. The North Carolina-bound Gaudiosn-Radvany achieved that goal, ending up with 30 goals and 17 assists and becoming the first player in country history with 100 career goals.

Gaudioso-Radvany's offensive production helped head coach Katie Grant's team reach the MCT championship game and the state Prep semis and finish 18-6 on the season.

—Bill Alden

GOAL-ORIENTED: Princeton High boys' soccer star Sam Kotowski eludes a foe in a game this fall. Kotowski tallied a program-record 31 goals in 2008 to lead the Little Tigers to a 17-4 record and their second straight MCT crown. Of Kotowski's goals, 14 were game winners. (Photo by Stephen Goldsmith)



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BREAKING OUT: Princeton University men's hockey defenseman Jody Pederson, right, controls the puck in recent action. Last Monday, Pederson chipped in a goal and an assist as No. 8 Princeton topped 17th-ranked Minnesota State 5-2. Pederson's output extended his scoring streak to four games and gave him seven points on the year with two goals and five assists. *(Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)*

With Defenseman Pederson Providing a Spark, PU Men's Hockey Comes Back With a Bang

Coming off its holiday break last season, the Princeton University men's hockey team absorbed a 6-1 beating at Minnesota State.

The memory of that setback was on the minds of the Princeton players last Monday as they hosted Minnesota State in their first game since December 3.

"It was definitely said in the dressing room before the game that we need a little payback," said Princeton junior defenseman Jody Pederson as he reflected on the matchup between No. 8 Princeton and the 18th-ranked Mavericks.

Pederson helped the Tigers even the account with Minnesota State as he scored a second period goal and then added an assist in the third period to help Princeton to a 5-2 win before a crowd of 1,652 at Baker Rink.

Dan Barlett scored two goals to lead Princeton with Brett Wilson and Derrick Pallis adding one apiece as the Tigers improved to 11-2 on the season.

While the Princeton players may have brought a little extra emotional motivation into the game, Pederson was concerned with how they would execute after such a long layoff.

"Coming out of Christmas break, you are always a little unsure about what to expect," said Pederson.

"I think we came out pretty well; we had a lot of legs. We needed them tonight; they are a good team. They came out hard too; they threw the body around on the forecheck. It was a test out there for us; I think we reacted pretty well."

The Tigers reacted well from the opening face-off, outshooting Minnesota State 16-10 in the first period and taking a 1-0 lead on Bartlett's first score.

Early in the second period it looked like the Tigers might turn the game into a rout as Pederson scored on a power play at the 1:55 mark and Pallis followed suit with a brilliant one-timer to the top shelf on another extra man situation less than three minutes later.

For Pederson, his goal was a matter of being in the right place at the right time. "We had the puck in deep and Brett Wilson had the puck on the half wall there," recalled the 6'3, 195-pound Pederson, a native of Smithers, B.C.

"He always has his head up, looking for guys to pass to. I sort of snuck in the back door there and he made a fantastic pass there. It was basically on my stick on the ice and went off my stick into the net."

Minnesota State, though, wasn't about to get blown out, answering the Tigers with a shorthanded goal late in the second period and a power play score in the second minute of the third period.

Even though the Tiger lead had been shaved to 3-2, the Princeton players weren't shellshocked.

"I think we were OK on the bench," said Pederson. "We had a quiet confidence; we knew we would be alright. We just had to get back to our game, doing what we do well and going after them."

The Tigers did just that as Bartlett responded with his second goal of the evening and then Pederson threaded a nice pass across the crease which Wilson converted for Princeton's fifth goal.

Having scored in four straight games with six points in that stretch, Pederson acknowledges that he is trying to make a solid contribution on that end of the ice.

"I definitely think about staying more involved," said Pederson, who now has seven points on the season with two goals and five assists.

"I am staying with the play and jumping up; just trying to contribute any way you can. I guess that is what everybody is trying to do."

Princeton head coach Guy Gadowsky likes the contribution he is getting from Pederson.

"Jody has been a tremendous player all year long," asserted Gadowsky. "His best offensive plays often happen in our zone; he's just a very good hockey player. He can shoot the puck and he has tremendous vision. You saw it today on his goal from Willie [Wilson] and the goal to Willie; those were tremendous vision plays from a smart hockey player."

The Tigers needed a tremendous effort to outlast Minnesota State, a WCHA (Western Collegiate Hockey Association) stalwart which was 8-7-3 entering the game.

"I thought we had some jump but I tell you what, that is a great team we played," said Gadowsky, whose team outshot the Mavericks 42-33 on the night.

"They are fast, they are tough. I thought it was an excellent hockey game to watch."

The bomb from freshman defenseman Pallis in the second period was an excellent demonstration of his skill.

"That was as good a shot as you are going to see all year; it was a bomb that went top shelf when we needed it," said Gadowsky.

"That wasn't luck. You could see him looking right there and he put it exactly where he wanted to. He just keeps getting more and more confidence. He's fun to watch now; I can't imagine what he is going to be like when he gets a little more strength to him."

Princeton was also sparked by the strong commitment displayed by sophomore forwards Kevin Lohry and Matt Arhontas.

"Kevin Lohry made two huge blocks," said Gadowsky. "Those are things you wonder if guys are going to do right away and he answered that question. I thought Matt Arhontas won battles in the corner and won races to the puck. He came out with pucks in tough situations. Those two guys sent a message that they are ready to go, maybe sooner than we thought."

The Tigers were looking to send the Mavericks a message after getting drubbed last winter in the meeting between the teams.

"There were a lot of guys that remembered what happened last year in Mankato," said Gadowsky, whose team was slated to play No. 16 Nebraska-Omaha on December 30 before hosting Harvard on January 3 and No. 20 Dartmouth on January 4. "They wanted to prove to them, at least, that we were not who they saw last year."

In Pederson's view, the Tigers have proven that they are a team to reckon with.

"We don't have a first line; we have four lines," said Pederson. "Everybody can go, everybody can score. I think that is why we do so well and why it is hard for other teams to play us. The scoring comes from all over."

And with Pederson picking up his scoring, the Tigers are that much harder to beat.

—Bill Alden

BACK TO SPEED: Princeton University men's hockey star Lee Jubinville races up the ice in a game earlier this season. Jubinville and the Tigers returned from their 26-day holiday break with a bang as they flew past Minnesota State 5-2 to improve to 11-2 overall on the season. In upcoming action, Princeton was slated to play No. 16 Nebraska-Omaha on December 30 before hosting Harvard on January 3 and No. 20 Dartmouth on January 4. *(Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)*

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PU Women's Hockey Plagued by Inconsistency, Needs to Sharpen Focus to Reach Full Potential

CREASE CONTROL: Princeton University women's hockey goalie Kristen Young makes a save in recent action. In Princeton's last action before the holiday break, Young made a total ot 82 saves as the Tigers split a two-game set at defending national champion Minnesota-Duluth. Princeton, currently 7-8-1 overall and 4-5 in ECAC Hockey play, will resume action when it plays at Harvard on January 2 and at Dartmouth on January 3.

(Photo by Bill Alden/NJ SportAction)

Playing at defending national champion Minnesota-Duluth for a two-game set before starting its holiday break, the Princeton University women's hockey team produced an up-and-down performance emblematic of their season so far.

The Tigers started the weekend by scoring two goals in the first period on the way to a thrilling 4-3 win over the third-ranked Bulldogs on December 13.

A day later, Princeton was on its heels in the early going and never really found a rhythm as it ended the first half of its season getting blanked 3-0 by Minnesota-Duluth.

With his team taking an overall record of 7-8-1 into the break, Princeton head coach Jeff Kampersal acknowledged that it has been one step forward, one step back for his squad.

"The girls know they are a good group; they have good potential," said Kampersal, whose team is 4-5 in ECAC Hockey play, good for seventh in the league standings in the 12-school loop.

"We have beaten St. Lawrence and Duluth, who are two of the best teams in the country. But we have lost some tough games in league play. We have shown that we can play real well for 40 minutes but we haven't put together a full 60-minute game. Kids have been in and out of the lineup; we haven't seen our full complement of players. We need to use the break to get some rest and get healthy."

In the opener against Minnesota-Duluth, the Tigers made their breaks as they rebounded from a rocky opening minute. "Things didn't start well; we had a botched stick handle and they fired in a goal," recalled Kampersal.

"About 20 seconds later, they almost had another and Younger [Kristin Young] made a great save. We took the rebound and Annie [Greenwood] took it end to end and made a real Greenwoodesque goal. The puck traveled over the defenseman and she hit it out of the air on the other side. About six or seven minutes later we got another one and we really settled down after that."

The Tigers got a big game from freshman forward Julie Johnson, who scored two goals, doubling her season total.

"Julie moved to the middle; she is a big strong kid," said Kampersal of the 5'7 native of Calgary Alberta.

"She struggled with d-zone coverage in the beginning but she's going to be a really good player for us. She has a really quick wrist shot and it is heavy."

Goalie Young is already a really good player for Princeton and she came up big for the Tigers in Duluth, making 37 saves in the win and recording 45 a day later to keep Princeton in the game.

"Younger was very good both days," said Kampersal of his senior goalie who has a goals against average of 2.65.

"I know it puts pressure on her but I tell her before every game that she needs to be our best player on the ice and she was in both games out there."

The Tigers' crew of freshman forwards has been up to the pressure of college hockey as Johnson, Paula Romanchuk (7 goals, 6 assists), Danielle DiCesare (7 goals, 4 assists), Charissa Stadnyk (3 goals, 4 assists) and Heather Landry (3 goals, 2 assists) have all made nice contributions.

"The freshmen are an excellent group; all of them are excellent kids," asserted Kampersal.

"They are hockey players, not kids who play hockey. They eat, sleep, breathe the game; they come in lor extra time at the rink to improve their games. They are the lirst ones there for practice."

Junior forward Melanie Wallace has aided the transition for the freshmen.

"Melanie is really skilled; she has worked really hard," said Kampersal of the London, Ont. native who is second on the team in scoring with 14 points on three goals and 11 assists.

"She plays with Chucky [Romanchuk] and Danielle and has done a real good job with that."

Sophomore defenseman Sasha Sherry has been doing a real good job for the tigers anchoring its defense and leading the team in scoring with 15 points on six goals and nine assists.

"Sasha is incredibly skilled," said Kampersal of the 6'0 Sherry who was a second-team All-ECACH performer last winter.

"For being one of the best players in the league, she is incredibly humble. She has great skills. She had a great goal against Duluth which was the game winner. She came up on the weak side, took a pass from Julie Flynn and parked it right under the crossbar."

Junior defenseman Stephanie Denino has been a strong point for Princeton on the ice and in the dressing room.

"She has done a good job," said Kampersaal of his junior co-captain. She is a real fun player; she is a high energy kid. She is loud. She gets it going on the ice, in the dressing room, and in the hallway."

In order for the Tigers to make some noise in the second half of the season, they will need to get the most out of their potential.

"We need to show up everyday and be completely focused on what we are doing whether it is a long practice or a 15 minute workout," said Kampersal, whose team will resume action when it plays at Harvard on January 2 and at Dartmouth on January 3.

"With the lull complement of players, we should be stronger but the games will all be uphill battles. We can't make mistakes like taking penalties at bad times."

—Bill Alden

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Featuring Scoring Balance and Character, PHS Girls' Hockey Primed for Big January

Although the Princeton High girls' hockey team wasn't at its sharpest in beating Upland Country Day 7-4 before the holiday break, it did display two qualities that should hold it in good stead the rest of the season.

The Little Tigers showed offensive balance, getting goals from five different players as Keely Herring and Stephanie Miezin scored two each with Elizabeth O'Grady, Katie Carreno, and Maddy Sturm adding one apiece.

But in the view of PHS head coach Jeff Schneider, the team's performance against Upland exemplified something more important than the ability to put the puck in the net.

"What I saw in the win over Upland was character," said Schneider, whose team took an early 3-1 lead only to see Upland knot the game at 3-3 in the second period.

"They kept fighting back and we didn't give up. Everyone was very supportive of one another. After they tied it up, we picked away at them the rest of the game."

Schneider likes the way his team has picked things up in the early going as PHS has started 4-2.

"I was hoping that we would go into the break at .500 or better," said Schneider.

"We lost a lot of firepower from last season. Coming into a season, you don't know what to expect. You don't know how good the new players are or how the other teams have changed."

PHS offense has changed for the better with the addition of freshmen Herring and Abby Hunter and the continued improvement of some key veterans.

"We have five players with three goals or more in Stephanie Miezin, Keely Herring, Gabby Vukasin, Maddy Sturm, and Abby Hunter," said Schneider. "Olivia Ray has seven assists. This team has more balance across two lines."

The move of Sturm to defense from center has helped shore up PHS' blue line unit. "Maddy has made the shift back to defense very well," said Schneider.

"She's like Brian Leetch [former New York Rangers great]: playing back there gives her a view of the whole ice and she is better able to make a play."

Schneider has also been getting some good play on defense from senior captain Elizabeth O'Grady and rapidly improving sophomore Neta Nekash.

"Elizabeth O'Grady was the only returner on defense with a lot of experience," added Schneider.

"Neta Nekash started to come on and she has continued to play well. She is +3 so far this season. Neta's role is to keep the puck in the offensive zone and get the puck out of the defensive zone."

The gifted freshman Herring has given Schneider additional flexibility in deploying his players.

"Keely is a swing player for us," explained Schneider. "When we play her at forward, she puts the puck into the net. When you put her on defense, she can use her good wheels. We put her where we need her."

The Little Tigers have gotten the leadership they need from their quartet of captains which includes O'Grady, Sturm, Carreno, and Haley Andres.

"The captains are doing a real good job; we are seeing the leadership come to the fore," asserted Schneider.

"They keep the players upbeat and focusing on playing as a team. Maddy and Katie are always asking questions; they are not resting on their laurels. The other girls see that and it influences them."

PHS's work ethic will get tested when the team returns from break as it will be playing at Lawrenceville on January 7, hosting Summit on January 8, and then playing at Morristown-Beard on January 14.

"We have a tough month; we have a lot of games," said Schneider. "There is no time to get our legs. The key is to see the girls improve individually and improve as a team. We were building toward improvement before the break."

In Schneider's view, the last weekend of January could be critical for his team as it looks to finish in the top four of the WIHLMA (Women's Interscholastic Hockey League of the Mid-Atlantic) and earn a spot in the championship bracket of the league playoffs.

"We have Shady Side (Pa.) and Holton Arms (Md.) in on Super Bowl weekend," said Schneider. "Those games could define what our place will be in the WIHLMA. We are looking to be in the top four."

If the Little Tigers can continue to show balance and character, they should find themselves in a good place as the season unfolds.

—Bill Alden

CAPTAIN'S CORNER: Princeton High girls' ice hockey player Katie Carreno heads up the ice in a game earlier this season. Senior forward Carreno, a team captain, along with Haley Andres, Maddy Sturm, and Elizabeth O'Grady, has been providing PHS with leadership and scoring punch. In the Little Tigers' last action before the holiday break, Carreno scored a goal to help PHS to a 7-4 win over Upland Country Day.

(Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)

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EVEN KEEL: Princeton High girls' ice hockey player Keely Herring looks to make a play in recent action. Freshman Herring has given the Little Tigers a big lift, producing at both forward and on defense. PHS, which headed into the holiday break with a 4-2 record, is next in action when it plays at Lawrenceville School on January 7.

(Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)

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Local Boys' Basketball Teams Take Lumps in Holiday Action

MYLES TO GO: Hun School boys' basketball player Myles Melville looks for an opening in recent play. Last Sunday, Melville scored a team-high 19 points as Hun fell 71-61 to Cardinal McCarrick in the Joe Silver Holiday Tournament at Hillside. Hun, which moved to 4-6 with the loss, was slated to play host Hillside on December 30 to wrap up the tournament. After a brief break, the Raiders will host Blair Academy on January 7.

(Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)

While many high school athletes go on hiatus during the holidays, local boys' basketball teams were plenty busy as they laced high-level competition in two states.

The Hun School boys' basketball team headed to Hillside to compete in the the Joe Silver Holiday Tournament where it took on some formidable foes.

In the opening night of the tournament on Saturday, Hun fought Lincoln valiantly before falling 63-58 in overtime. The Raiders trailed 32-28 after three quarters but outscored Lincoln 25-21 in the fourth period to force overtime.

Post-graduate guards R.J. Griffin and Jon Lee led the way for Hun in the loss, scoring 23 and 17 points, respectively.

A night later, freshman guard Myles Melville led the way as Hun battled Cardinal McCarrick. Melville poured in 19 points but it wasn't enough as Hun lost 71-61 to undefeated McCarrick. Griffin chipped in 13 points and Lee added 11 as the Raiders dropped to 4-6 on the season.

Hun was slated to play host Hillside on December 30 to wrap up the tournament. After a brief break, the Raiders will host Blair Academy on January 7.

Meanwhile, the PHS boys' hoops team headed to Allentown, Pa. to take part in the William Allen Holiday Tournament for a second straight season.

In opening round play last Monday, Skye Ettin scored 16 points and Brian Dunlap added 13 but the Little Tigers came up just short in falling 63-58 to Springfield (Delco).

PHS, which moved to 1-1 with the setback, was scheduled to play host William Allen last Tuesday. The game will have a special meaning for Little Tiger head coach Jason Carter and his players as the Canaries are coached by former PHS hoops coach Doug Snyder.

After finishing play in Allentown, PHS is next in action when it hosts Hopewell Valley on January 6.

The PDS boys' team headed across the state to play in the Jack Kuhnert Memorial Tournament in Freehold. The Panthers fell to Freehold Township 87-66 last Saturday in the opening night of the competition.

On Monday, the Panthers fell to Howell to move to 1-7 on the season. PDS was slated to lace Columbia on December 30 in the tournament's 7th-place game. After New Year's Day, PDS will resume action by playing at Timothy Christian on January 5.

Local Sports

New Rugby Club Seeking Teen Players

The Princeton Athletic Club (PAC), a South Brunswick-area USA Rugby club, is seeking teenage boys, ages 15-19, who are interested in learning to play competitive rugby. No experience is necessary.

The high school team will practice at the Crossroads Middle School in Monmouth Junction where the club's men's team is based. PAC is actively recruiting high school players from North Brunswick, South Brunswick, Princeton, and surrounding towns to participate in the program's inaugural season in spring 2009.

The high school team will play against other sides in the New York/New Jersey area under the auspices of USA Rugby. The team is not sponsored by an individual community and there are no residency restrictions.

For more information on the sport and the club, log on to www.brunswickrugby.com. Specific information about the new team can be obtained by contacting Rich Beck at rbeck1120@hotmail.com.

Princeton Travel Hoops Recent Results

The Princeton Recreation Department 7th grade girls' travel basketball team lost 41-22 to South Brunswick in recent Central Jersey League action to fall to 2-1 on the season.

Leah Moran led a balanced scoring attack for Princeton with seven points, Elizabeth Jacobs added six points and 10 rebounds for Princeton, with Arielle Thomas chipping in five points. Coco Doll contributed four points and nine rebounds.

NJ Lacrosse Group Holding Ref Classes

The New Jersey Interscholastic Lacrosse Officials Association will be holding cadet training classes for individuals interested in officiating high school boys' lacrosse.

Playing experience is not necessary but individuals must be at least 18 years old. Classes will be held throughout the state beginning in January.

To register or for more information, visit the association's website at www.njiloa.org.

NY Giants Youth Camp Slated for Princeton

The New York Giants Youth Football Camps will be holding a week-long session this summer at the Princeton Academy of the Sacred Heart on Great Road.

The camps feature week-long full day programs for athletic skills, life skills, and fun. It is a non-contact program open to kids ages 6-14.

The instructors will include professional educators along with such former New York Giant standouts as Bill Ard, Eric Dorsey, Charles Way, and Keith Elias. There is a 10:1 student to instructor ratio.

The camp at Princeton Academy will be taking place from July 6-10 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information on the program, log on to www.nygiantscamps.com or call (877) 226-9919.

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Obituaries

Raymond Fisher Sr.

Raymond Fisher Sr., 63, of Princeton, died December 18 at the Princeton Care Center after a long battle with cancer.

Born and raised in Princeton, he attended the Princeton school system.

Predeceased by his father, Isaiah "Binky" Fisher, and a daughter, Debra, he is survived by his mother, Estelle Fisher of Princeton; two sons, Ray Jr. of Philadelphia and Raymond III of Trenton; six daughters, Sherri of Trenton, Briana of Princeton, Aisha, Tynisha, Arlene, and Priscilla of Trenton; two brothers, Gilbert of Princeton and Aaron of Franklin Park; a sister, Patricia (Tish) Lewis of Hamilton; stepchildren Passionette Harmon and Stanley Harmon of Trenton and Jermaine Tingle and Tony Tingle of Graysonville, Md.; his former wife, Patty Ann Yates of Princeton; his fiancée, Gloria Perez of Princeton, six grandchildren; and special friends Arlene Harmon of Trenton, Diane Tingle of Graysonville, Md., and Inger Adams of Inglewood, Calif.

The funeral service was December 27 at the First Baptist Church. Interment was private.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Family of Raymond Fisher, c/o the Hughes Funeral Home 324 Bellevue Avenue, Trenton 08618.

Arrangements were by the Hughes Funeral Home.

Harriet J. Kaftanic

Harriet J. Kaftanic, 87, of Princeton, died December 27 at Park Place Center in Monmouth Junction after a brief illness.

Born in Springfield, Ill., she lived in Metuchen before moving to Princeton in 1972.

She received a Bachelor of Science degree in Art Education from Illinois State University in 1943. She also attended the Art Institute of Chicago. Prior to her marriage, she was employed as a schoolteacher for the city of Hammond, Indiana.

She was a volunteer Girl Scout leader and trainer in Metuchen, a founding member of Watercolorists Unlimited, and a member of the Garden State Watercolor Society. Her work was exhibited at various local shows.

Predeceased by her son, Richard William Kaftanic, she is survived by her husband of 61 years, Edward M. Kaftanic; a daughter, Linda Meuse of Cherry Hill; a son, Barry E. Kaftanic of Princeton; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Saturday, January 3 at 9:30 a.m. at St. Paul's Catholic Church, 214 Nassau Street, Princeton. Burial will follow in Princeton Cemetery.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend the visitation on Friday, January 2 from 2 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. at the Kimble Funeral Home, One Hamilton Avenue, Princeton.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation International, 120 Wall Street, 19th Floor, New York, N.Y. 10005, Attn: Donations Dept.; or online at www.jdrf.org.

Frank J. Sannino

Frank J. Sannino, 89, a lifelong resident of Princeton, died December 28 at The Pavilions at Forrestal in Plainsboro after a brief illness.

A graduate of Princeton High School, he enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps after high school and was honorably discharged as a sergeant after serving in World War II. After leaving the military, he and his brother Pete began the Sannino Plumbing and Heating business In 1946.

He was a member of St. Paul's Catholic Church in Princeton. In addition to plumbing, his leisure time was spent gardening.

He was predeceased by his parents, Giro and Vincenza Migilizzi Sannino, two brothers, and a sister. He is survived by two nieces, Sandra Morreale of Tennessee and Terri Hoschek of Toms River, and two nephews, Mark Sannino of Princeton and Billy Sannino of Erwinna, Pa.

Services will begin on Monday, January 5 at 10:30 a.m. at the Kimble Funeral Home, One Hamilton Avenue, followed by an 11 a.m. funeral mass at St. Paul's Catholic Church, 214 Nassau Street. Burial will follow in St. Paul's Church Cemetery.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend the visitation on Sunday, January 4 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Paul's Catholic Church, 214 Nassau Street, Princeton 08542.

Edgar L. Van Zandt

Edgar L. Van Zandt, 80, of Plainsboro Township, died December 25 at Kindred Hospital, Havertown, Pa.

Born in Princeton, the son of the late John Percy and Helen Benedict Van Zandt, he had resided in Plainsboro since 1998, having previously lived in Flemington for many years.

A 1949 graduate of Cornell University with a B.S. in Agriculture, Mr. Van Zandt owned and operated Van Zandt Sales & Service Company, first in Blawenburg, then in Raritan Township. After selling his firm in 1980, he became a sales representative with Hobensack Farm Equipment, Warminster, Pa.

Among his numerous civic activities, he was a longtime treasurer for Habitat for Humanity in Trenton; former head of the Hunterdon County Housing Association, where he was responsible for obtaining low-cost senior citizen housing in Flemington; a longtime member of the Flemington Baptist Church; a 50-year member of the Princeton Agricultural Society; head of the Buildings & Roads Committee of Windrows Estates in Plainsboro; an honorary member of the Flemington Rotary Club; member of the Princeton Old Guard; and a former treasurer of Thompson's Point Association in Charlotte, Vt.

He was predeceased by his wife of 53 years, Edna Gillett Van Zandt, in 2005. He is survived by two sons, David E. Van Zandt of Chicago and Thomas R. Van Zandt of Redondo Beach, Calif.; two daughters, Mary V.Z. Wachterhauser of Havertown, Pa. and Shirley E. Van Zandt of Upperco, Md.; a brother, John P. Van Zandt Jr. of Winston-Salem, N.C.; a sister, Elizabeth Adams of Greenville, S.C.; and six grandchildren.

Memorial services will be held this Saturday, January 3 at 1 p.m. in Blawenburg Reformed Church, 424 County Highway 518, Blawenburg, under the direction of the Holcombe-Fisher Funeral Home, 147 Main Street, Flemington. Interment was private in Blawenburg Cemetery, Blawenburg. There are no calling hours.

For more information or to send condolences, visit www.holcombefisher.com.

Memorial contributions may be made Habitat for Humanity, 601 North Clinton Avenue, Trenton 06538.

Religion

Princeton Seminary Plans 2009 Calvin Celebration

Princeton Theological Seminary is inviting the church, the academy, and Christians around the world to celebrate the 500th anniversary of John Calvin's birth by participating in "A Year with the *Institutes*," a daily reading of Calvin's major work, The *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, during 2009.

Calvin, the most important founding theologian of the Reformed theological tradition, was born July 10, 1509. His *Institutes* represent a systematized approach to Reformed theology.

Princeton Seminary, through its Center of Continuing Education, will provide a daily reading schedule and text of a three-to-six-page section of the 1559 version of the *Institutes* for each day of 2009, except Sundays and Christmas Day, online on its web site. The readings will also be provided in audio format as a podcast, with sections read by oral performers from around the country. Michael Brothers, an assistant professor of speech communication in ministry at the Seminary, will direct this part of the project.

Each week an invited scholar or pastor will provide a reflection paper on that week's readings on the web site, and participants will be able to comment on both the readings and the reflection papers.

The project was the brainchild of Princeton Seminary's Christian education assistant professor Gordon Mikoski, who decided to read through the *Institutes* as part of his Christian devotional practice to commemorate the anniversary year of Calvin's birth. As he told friends and colleagues about his idea, they wanted to join him.

"While browsing through the Westminster John Knox book display at the American Academy of Religion meeting in November, I came upon new copies of the *Institutes*," Prof. Mikoski said. "It occurred to me that reading them cover-to-cover from January 1 through December 31, 2009 would be an appropriate way to honor Calvin's life and work."

Prof. Mikoski's project was enthusiastically received by the Erdman Center of Continuing Education, which is sponsoring a number of events in 2009 to celebrate the Calvin anniversary. The first of these is 2009's first global Calvin conference, "Calvin and the Church Today," January 20 to 23.

Princeton Seminary hopes pastors, lay people, and scholars will take this opportunity to read and interact with the work of a theological giant in the Reformed tradition, with a community of Christians across the church and the world.

For more information about "A Year with the *Institutes*," and how to participate, visit www.ptsem.edu/calvin2009.

Environmental Film Series Set at Unitarian Church

The Unitarian Universalist Congregation's Green Sanctuary Committee will host a film series on environmental topics for children and adults beginning January 4. Films for adults will be shown twice every week from January 4 through May 16, on Friday morning at 10 a.m. and again on Sunday afternoon at 5 p.m., with refreshments and discussion following each screening. Films for children will run approximately every other week on Saturdays at 4 p.m. and will be followed by pizza and beverages.

Topics include green building, gardening, recycling, and more.

All films will be shown in the Fahs Theater, to the right of the entrance of the main church building.

The adult series will begin with the documentary *The 11th Hour* on Sunday, January 4 at 5 p.m. The film provides an overview of major environmental crises. The children's series will begin with *Green Animotion*, a series of eleven animated Films.

All films are free and open to the public. For the complete film schedule, visit www.uuprinceton.org.

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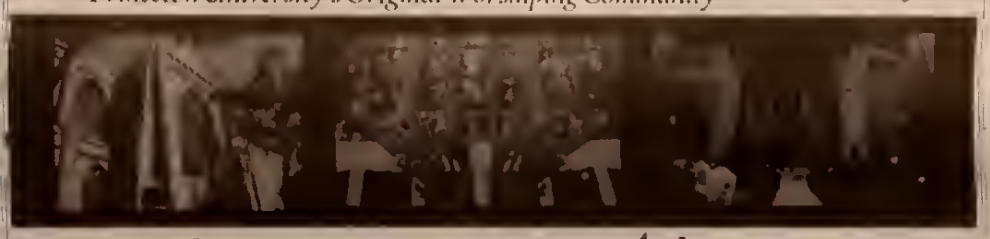

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12-03-tf

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11-19/01-07

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12-17-4t

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- Marriage is a fortress for well-being.
- The main purpose of marriage is to bring forth and educate children.
- Good character is the foundation of all endeavors.
- Each person is a soul who has a body.
- Education should serve to refine one's character as well as one's intellect.
- Each person's purpose is to know and to love God.
- Prayer and meditation are essential to growth.
- Baha'is are followers of Baha'u'llah.

The Baha'is of Lawrenceville, Princeton and Hamilton Township conduct classes each Sunday for children and adults and these are open to people of all ages and faiths.

For more information about classes and the Baha'i Faith, call Wendy Kvalheim at 609-683-8929 or go to the web at www.bahai.org.

Sunday classes are from 9:30 to 11:30 am at the Lanning School, 1925 Pennington Road, (Rte. 31) just south of the entrance to College of New Jersey. All are welcome. Please join us.

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